

THE JOURNAL

May 20, 2005

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Sports El Cerrito knocked out of volleyball playoffs [C1]

Arts & Leisure Moviegoers finally taken to the Darth side [C10]

El Cerrito celebrates old school

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

Monkey Williams looked at smiling faces inside a 1973 El Cerrito High School yearbook. He graduated in 1972 and wanted to remember what the classmates looked like. "I really come good times here," Williams said. Williams was one of about 400 people who attended Saturday's parade and festival celebrating El Cerrito High School's 64th anniversary. The event, part of the "Wrecking Ball Hits Home" weekend celebration, included a dance Saturday night and a closing ceremony Sunday day presided by West Valley School District Superintendent Gloria Johnston.



DEAN COPPOLA/STAFF

NBA BASKETBALL PLAYER and El Cerrito High School graduate Drew Gooden greets friend Alejandra Rutte, class of 2002, May 14 during the festival celebrating El Cerrito High School's 64-year history. The three-day festival was a last hurrah before the start of demolition of the old school, which will be replaced by a new facility projected to open in 2008.



JOANNA JHANDASTAFF

CLINTON MORGAN, a '92 alumnus, writes on a wall of the school gymnasium, one of many pre-wrecking ball festivities. Morgan's parents and two siblings also graduated from the school.

attend class in a temporary campus on the baseball field while the school is rebuilt.

"It's been a great school for my kids and a great school for

El Cerrito and the larger community," Mayor Pro Tem Janet Abelson said at the ceremony. "The best way to celebrate history is by having all of you here."

FOR MORE DETAILS

For more information about El Cerrito High School alumni, call Kathie Nemy Weinstein at 510-215-5570 or e-mail her at bjhardy4@hotmail.com. To donate memorabilia to the school's archiving project, call Joann Steck-Bayat at 510-524-9468.

In front of the school, residents perused yearbooks, pored over photos, and added their names to a growing alumni database.

Alumni greeted one another with smiles and hugs, years, sometimes decades, after they last spoke.

See CELEBRATE, Page A9

Albany reconsiders plan for City Hall

■ Construction costs are forcing officials to look at options other than adding a second story to City Hall

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

A potential 21 percent increase in construction costs is forcing Albany to reconsider a plan to build a second story on top of City Hall as part of an effort to earthquake-proof that building as well as the police and fire stations.

"(City staff is) afraid of running out of money," said Mayor Robert Good. "They think they can do it cheaper on the ground floor."

Last fall, the council allocated Measure F property tax money for design and construction of a seismic retrofit and second-story expansion of the fire and police stations and a seismic retrofit and renovation of City Hall.

The city expected actual construction to cost \$3.3 million. But

the increasing price of building materials is driving the construction costs upward, said Ann Chaney, the city's community development director.

As an alternative because of rising costs, the city is now considering a ground floor expansion between the police and fire stations.

City Councilman Farid Javandel, a civil engineer, said a ground floor expansion may or may not cost more than building upward.

"We just wanted that to be one of the options for consideration," said Javandel. "We're essentially not trying to rule out something that could save us money."

On Monday, Javandel was one of four councilmembers who voted to authorize a \$461,340 contract with Berkeley-based Noll and Tam Architects for design work on the City Hall project.

At a minimum, the project is meant to seismically retrofit City Hall and the police and fire build-

See RECONSIDER, Page A10

Residents speak up on budget priorities

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

The El Cerrito City Council postponed approval of the 2005-06 budget at a recent meeting following public comment from several residents.

Residents Brit Johnson and Peter Loubal told the council they would like to see more money put into street paving. On a nine-county pavement condition index, El Cerrito ranks 90th out of 107 cities, Johnson said.

Resident Rosemary Loubal said she wanted more money allocated for city landscaping improvements and public toilets along the Ohlone Greenway trail.

The city is planning to spend \$3.7 million on infrastructure improvements next year, leaving \$28 million in unfunded needs, according to the budget.

The unfunded infrastructure includes \$8.1 million for parks and recreation, \$8.2 million for streets, \$9.1 million for storm drains and \$2.6 million for the

MEETING

■ WHAT: Financial advisory board meeting to discuss the 2005-2006 city budget

■ WHEN: Tuesday at 7 p.m.

■ WHERE: Conference room A at City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave.

■ DETAILS: Call 510-215-4310

city's public buildings.

On the plus side, the money earmarked for infrastructure next year will help pay for:

■ New playground equipment at Creekside and Canyon Trail parks.

■ Improved trees, signs and lighting along San Pablo Avenue.

■ Some storm drain improvements.

■ Additional improvements along Fairmount Avenue.

■ Improvements to the Ohlone Greenway.

See PRIORITIES, Page A9

Local events to double the fun for this Sunday

The Albany spring Arts and Taste of El Cerrito feature food, art

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

Residents in the El Cerrito area are looking to meet their neighbors while enjoying good food and entertainment in the coming weeks.

The Albany spring Arts Festival and the Taste of El Cerrito are two of the community events that will be held this Sunday.

The Solano Avenue Associa-

tion will hold its annual Chocolate and Chalk Art Festival on May 28, and the Albany Chamber of Commerce has scheduled its fourth annual Taste of Albany for June 5.

The Albany arts festival will be held from noon to 10 p.m. at Memorial Park and the Albany High School Little Theater.

Artists will display and sell their wares at the school, and vendors will sell light snacks.

Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory will screen at dusk as part of the Albany film night summer series.

Sponsored by the city's recre-

ation department, the Albany arts committee and the nonprofit Albany Community Foundation, the free event will showcase local talent from Albany High School and the city's adult classes, said City Councilman Allan Maris.

"It's supposed to be a celebration of the visual and performing arts in Albany," said Maris, who also heads the Community Foundation. "It's an opportunity hopefully for the general community to see what great talent we have in our schools."

The Taste of El Cerrito will raise money for the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce as well

as a scholarship fund to help an El Cerrito High School student attend business school, said Tracy Giles, a member of the chamber's board of directors.

"We've got 14 restaurants and 33 sponsors," said Giles. "It's just been awesome to have the community embrace us. We have had a lot of good feedback."

The businesses providing food samples will include Fatapples, Strings Italian Cafe, Uncle Wong's, Yokohama, the Well Grounded Coffee and Tea Bar, and Trader Joe's.

See FUN, Page A10



SHERRY LAVARS/STAFF

A WAITRESS hurries through the dining room during lunch at Yokohama, one of the restaurants participating in the inaugural Taste of El Cerrito event this weekend.

INSIDE

At the Library

■ Of offensive odors and library access. Page A5



Martin Snapp

■ It's time again to pay respects to the men of World War II's incomparable 442nd regiment. Page A3

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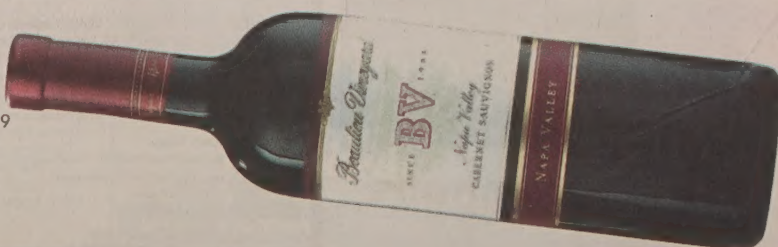
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NEWS BRIEFS

Albany

Tee off and support AHS sports

Albany High School Baseball Boosters are sponsoring the third annual Cougar Golf Classic, a benefit for the Albany High School baseball program June 5 at the Franklin Canyon Golf Course. Play begins at 1:30 p.m. with a shotgun start. The cost to players is \$100 (\$90 for players older than 65) and includes green fees, cart and lunch. For more information, e-mail Golf4AHSBaseball@aol.com.

Memorial Day concert set for May 25

The Albany chapters of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars and the city will sponsor a Memorial Day Concert at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Veterans Memorial Building in Memorial Park, 1325 Portland Ave. The Albany Adult Jazz Band will play patriotic music, and the American Legion will perform Memorial Day ceremonies. Refreshments will be served.

Veteran's Memorial program scheduled

A Veteran's Memorial program will be presented Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Albany Veteran's Memorial Hall, 1325 Portland Ave. Patriotic music, readings and a military flag folding ceremony will be included. Big band jazz, performed by the Albany Jazz Band, rounds out the evening. Cabaret seating, dancing and refreshments will be available. The event is wheelchair-accessible, and admission is free. For details call 510-524-9530 or visit www.albanyjazzband.org.

Forum on diversity to be held June 1

A community discussion about diversity will be held at 7 p.m. June 1 in the Albany High School library, 603 Key Route Blvd. The Albany High School PTA and Embracing Diversity Films are sponsoring the event. The groups want to encourage tolerance and diversity in the community, perhaps through a community proclamation, annual diversity days or a diversity campaign. For more information, call Sally Douglas Arce at 510-527-1328.

Seniors to hold pancake breakfast

The annual Friends of the Albany Seniors pancake breakfast will be held Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children 6 and younger. Albany firefighters will prepare breakfast, which will include pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee and juice. For more information, call 510-524-9122.

El Cerrito

Mayor Potter will give state of city address

Mayor Sandi Potter will give a state of the city address at the next El Cerrito Democratic Club meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Makemie Hall at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. Potter will discuss city projects and programs and take questions from the audience. For more details call 510-527-2194.

Possibility of a new library to be discussed

The Friends of the El Cerrito Library will discuss the possibility of building a new library at a meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. Karen Pinkos, the assistant to the city manager, will be the guest speaker. The meeting will be held at the library, 6510 Stockton Ave. For more information, call 510-526-7512.

Councilman McNeil to speak on casinos

The League of Women Voters-West Contra Costa County will hold its annual lunch at noon Tuesday at Denny's restaurant in El Cerrito. San Pablo City Councilman Leonard McNeil will speak about casinos and local finance. McNeil is family services coordinator at Crescent Park Multi-Cultural Family Resource Center in Richmond. For reservations and menu choices, call 510-232-3767.

Tree removed after knocking down fence

The city removed a liquid ambar tree after it fell and knocked down a fence surrounding a construction site at San Pablo Avenue and Schmidt Lane. Public works supervisor Bill Driscoll said he received a call about the tree at about noon Wednesday. The water-logged tree had split down its center core, he said. The damage and weight from the water inside likely caused it to fall. "The age of it and probably just the shape of it had something to do with it," Driscoll said. The same day, city maintenance crews placed a barrier around the tree, cut it down and brought it to the recycling center to turn into mulch, Driscoll said.

Hardware store to pick up sales tax

Orchard Supply Hardware will pay the sales tax for merchandise sold during its grand opening celebration on Saturday and Sunday. The event will also include prizes, vendor demonstrations and children's activities. A free three-gallon bucket will be given to the first 1,000 customers per day. The event will start at 8 a.m. on both days and end at 9 p.m. Saturday and 8 p.m. Sunday. Orchard, which opened May 14, is at 1751 Eastshore Blvd. Details: 510-234-9818.

Chamber of Commerce schedules luncheon

The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce will hold its next business luncheon at noon Tuesday at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, 7901 Cutting Blvd. For more details call 510-233-7040.

Kensington

Class planned on dog-training tips

Dog behavior consultant Sasha Futran will introduce dogs and their owners to loose-leash walking and other city manners in a class from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday. The price is \$35 for one class or \$60 for two one-hour classes. Futran also will teach "Puppy Prep" to help puppies and owners with socialization skills useful with other animals and humans. The class meets for four one-hour sessions from 11 a.m. to noon Saturdays, June 4-25. The price is \$300 for four one-hour sessions. Both classes meet at RabbitEars, 1303 Arlington Ave. Call 510-525-6155 to register.

— Alan Lopez, Deborah Byrd

ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

Monday, May 9

■ **TRESPASSER ARRESTED** — A resident in the 500 block of Stannage Avenue reported that someone was acting suspiciously near the laundry room and bike area of the apartment building. The resident placed him under citizen's arrest and called police. Officers processed the 35-year-old Berkeley man for trespassing and released him with a notice to appear.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — A resident in the 800 block of Buchanan Street reported that a man was banging on his front door then went into his backyard to his back door. Officers arrested a 41-year-old Berkeley man for an outstanding Berkeley warrant. He was cited and released with a notice to appear.

Tuesday, May 10

■ **DUI** — At about 2 a.m., officers stopped a black 1992 Oldsmobile near Gillman Street and I-80 for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 20-year-old Oakland man, was found to be intoxicated. He was arrested for DUI and being a person under 21 driving intoxicated, cited and released with a notice to appear.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone stole items out of a Honda in a garage in the 1100 block of Stannage Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone stole the stereo and CDs out of a gray 1998 Toyota Camry in the 700 block of Taft Street during the night.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone broke into a silver 1988 Acura parked at 555 Pierce St. during the night and stole items from inside. There were no witnesses.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone broke into a silver Toyota Sienna parked in a driveway in the 900 block of Ordway Street and stole CDs and other items. There were no witnesses.

Wednesday, May 11

■ **SATURN STOLEN, TOYOTA FOUND** — During the night someone stole a teal-colored 1993 Saturn from the 700 block of Talbot Ave. There were no witnesses. A search of the area discovered a blue Toyota that had been stolen out of Dublin. The owner was notified.

Thursday, May 12

■ **HONDA RECOVERED** — Officers located a blue 1986 Honda in the 800 block of Polk Street that had been reported as stolen out of Richmond on Dec. 29. The owner was notified.

■ **PAROLE VIOLATIONS** — At about 4:30 p.m., officers contacted a man acting suspiciously in the 1400 block of Marin Avenue. They arrested the Oakland man for petty theft and parole violations. He was transported to Santa Rita Jail.

Friday, May 13

■ **DUI** — At about 1:30 a.m., officers stopped a blue 2000 Audi near University Avenue and I-80 for speeding and driving recklessly. The driver, a 34-year-old San Francisco man, was found to be intoxicated and did poorly on the field sobriety test. He was arrested for DUI, cited and released with a notice to appear. His vehicle was towed.

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — A resident in the 400 block of Kains Avenue reported that during the night someone stole her maroon 1989 Honda Civic parked across the street from her residence. There were no witnesses.

■ **ACCIDENT** — At about 10:30 p.m., officers responded to a vehicle accident near Castro Street and San Pablo Avenue. They arrested a 35-year-old Berkeley man for driving without a driver's license. He was cited and released with a notice to appear. His vehicle was towed.

■ **WALLET STOLEN** — A resident in the 500 block of Talbot Avenue reported that during the night someone stole her wallet out of her blue Honda Civic. She said the car may have been unlocked.

Saturday, May 14

■ **IMPERSONATING AN OFFICER** — At about 2:30 a.m., officers observed a blue Ford Explorer on the side of I-80 near the Albany exit behind another vehicle that appeared to be having car trouble. They became concerned when they saw a red light on the front dash and the man appeared to be acting like a police officer. They arrested the 27-year-old Richmond man for possession of a weapon and for impersonating an officer. He was cited and transported to Santa Rita Jail.

■ **RESTRAINING ORDER VIOLATION** — At about 7:30 a.m., officers stopped a white Ford Mustang with no license plates in the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue. They arrested the El Sobrante man for violating a restraining order. He was cited and transported to Santa Rita Jail.

■ **ATTEMPTED THEFT** — A Sebastopol man reported that someone attempted to steal his silver 1998 Acura Integra during the night while it was parked in the 900 block of Solano Avenue. The steering column had been damaged. There were no witnesses.

■ **WHEELCHAIR STOLEN** — Between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m., someone stole a wheelchair from a driveway in the 900 block of Madison Street. There were no witnesses.

■ **TRESPASSING** — At about 6:30 p.m., an apartment manager in the 400 block of Evelyn Avenue called to report that when he arrived home he found someone in his unlocked garage. He confronted the man, who said he was looking for some cable and then fled in a white 1993 Chevrolet pickup. The manager described the man as a white male adult with a

gray beard and wearing a Oakland uniform and was able to give the license plate number. A check of the vehicle was registered to a man on parole for robbery. The man requested a warrant for his arrest from the District Attorney's office.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — Shortly before midnight officers contacted a pedestrian near San Pablo Avenue who was acting suspiciously. They arrested the 30-year-old transient woman for disorderly conduct. She was cited and held to be released when sober.

Sunday, May 15

■ **FIGHTING AND VANDALISM** — Officers responded to Golden Fields in the 1100 block of San Pablo Avenue where a fight broke out on reports of someone causing disturbance. They arrested a 30-year-old Oakland man for fighting and vandalism. He was cited and released with a notice to appear.

■ **TRESPASSING** — A resident in the 1400 block of Portland Avenue reported that a young man was in his backyard. He followed the man to Memorial Park and reported that he was last seen in the children's area. Officers arrested the 20-year-old Albany man for trespassing and disorderly conduct. He was cited and released with a notice to appear.

Summary

During the week of May 8 through May 14, 2005, the El Cerrito Police Department towed six vehicles, responded to false alarms, attended to two burglaries, assisted three people who were out of their house or car, responded to three reports of lost dogs, in the domestic arena, responded to seven civil disturbances and 156 civil assists. Officers responded to seven vehicle accidents, 73 vehicles or persons, issuing citations and 45 warnings. A firefighter/paramedics responded to a fire call and six medical emergencies.

EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS

Monday, May 9

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Property was taken from an unlocked car in an open garage in the 7400 block of Potrero Avenue between 8 p.m. on May 9 and 7 a.m. the next day.

■ **LAUNDRY THEFT** — A coin box was taken from a laundry room in the 6500 block of Portola Drive between 8 p.m. on May 9 and 5:30 p.m. the next day.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — The right rear window of a 1988 Honda Accord in the 6500 block of Manila Avenue was smashed and electronic items were taken. The theft occurred between 7 p.m. on May 9 and 7:30 a.m. the next day.

Tuesday, May 10

■ **ARMED ROBBERY** — A woman was robbed of her purse in the Walgreen's parking lot at 8:55 p.m. A man confronted the woman at gunpoint and demanded her purse. He then ran toward Cutting Boulevard.

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — A 1997 Honda Accord was taken from the 500 block of Elm Street between 8

a.m. and 6:15 p.m.

■ **ACCORD TAKEN** — A 1992 Honda Accord was taken from the 3000 block of San Mateo Street between 7:10 p.m. and 9:10 p.m.

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — A 1991 Honda Accord was taken from the 700 block of Sea View Drive between 12:20 p.m. on May 10 and 8:30 a.m. the next day.

■ **ARMED ROBBERY** — A robber armed with a gun took a man's wallet as the victim walked along the Ohlone Greenway near the Del Norte BART station at 8:30 p.m.

■ **HOME BREAK-INS** — Electronic items were taken from two homes, one in the 1400 block of Navellier Street between 10:20 a.m. and 9:50 p.m. on May 12 and the other in the 1600 block between 10:30 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. on May 10. A side door of the home in the 1600 block was kicked in, allowing the burglar to enter. The home in the 1400 block was entered by breaking out a bedroom window.

Wednesday, May 11

■ **CIVIC STOLEN** — A 1992 Honda

Civic was taken from the 6700 block of Potrero Avenue between 7 a.m. and 7:50 a.m.

Thursday, May 12

■ **MERCURY STOLEN** — A 1992 Mercury Cougar was taken from the 7400 block of Stockton Avenue between 7:30 a.m. and 10:20 a.m.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Items were taken from a vehicle in the 1500 block of South 56th Street between 6 p.m. on May 12 and 2 a.m. on May 14.

Friday, May 13

■ **ARMED ROBBERY** — A man was robbed by three juveniles as he left the Del Norte BART station at 10 p.m. One of the juveniles pointed a handgun at the man and demanded his money. The three then fled north, police said.

Saturday, May 14

■ **BANK ROBBERY** — A man robbed a bank in the 9800 block of San Pablo Avenue at 1:15 p.m. The man received an undisclosed amount of cash after he presented a note to the teller, police said. He fled the area.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Tools were taken from a commercial van, 3500 block of Carlson Boulevard, between 4 p.m. on May 14 and 10 p.m. the next day.

Monday, May 15

■ **HOME BREAK-IN** — Property taken from a home in the 1500 block of Norvell Street between 10:20 p.m. and 6:10 p.m. The burglar entered the home by smashing a window.

Library sets up site for small businesses

The Contra Costa County Library has developed a business Web page at <http://ccclib.org/business/>. The page is intended to help small businesses and start-ups.

Topics include first steps in starting a business, marketing, management, human resources, international trade, a calendar of training, educational opportunities and more. The county library developed the page after receiving a

\$75,000 grant from the California State Library, said central library manager Janet Hildebrand.

"We've done the background work to pull it together all in one place that's easy for people to use," said Hildebrand of the Web page. "Our project has included adding new resource materials — both on-line databases and print materials — to our collections."

— Alan Lopez

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CORRECTION

A story in the May 13 issue of The Journal incorrectly stated how much it will cost the city to pay for 5.8 new employees. The correct number is \$96,379.

THE JOURNAL

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Shareef Dajani, general manager • Craig Lazzaretto, Hills

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EDITORIAL

TO REPORT AN ERROR: Call the newsroom at 510-262-2724. The Journal strives for accuracy, but should an error occur, a correction will be published in the next edition.

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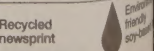
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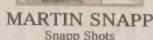
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THE JOURNAL

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— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

EDITORIAL

New hopes come with new school

STUDENTS AT El Cerrito High School certainly face their share of challenges these days. They're part of a school district that has been beset with problems in recent years, and live in a state that consistently ranks near the bottom in educational achievement. Many come from low-income families, making the dream of a college education all the more elusive in an era of rising tuition costs. For those who can and want to attend college, they face the prospect of being saddled with thousands of dollars in debt when they emerge with their degrees.

But in light of the events last week marking the imminent destruction and rebuilding of the school, it might be worth looking back at the challenges that faced the first generation of El Cerrito High School students.

When the school opened in 1941, its students confronted a future that in many ways was much more challenging and frightening than anything on the horizon today.

The country was still trying to escape the grip of an economic depression that had dragged on for more than a decade. In a few months, the nation would be plunged into World War II, with graduates from El Cerrito and other high schools facing the prospect of going overseas to fight for their country.

That first generation of El Cerrito High students, along with their peers throughout the country, met those challenges and others, and came to be known as "The Greatest Generation." They helped win World War II and laid the foundation for economic prosperity that carried the city, region and country into the 21st century.

As a new high school begins to rise from the debris of an old one in a few months, we should be hopeful that this generation of El Cerrito students, like the one in 1941, will meet its era's challenges and leave a legacy we can all be proud of.

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

House of Representatives

Barbara Lee: (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley, most of Oakland) 414 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-2661. Fax: 202-225-9817; 1301 Clay St., Ste. 1000N, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-763-0370. Fax: 510-763-6538. E-mail: barbara.lee@mail.house.gov.

Ellen Tauscher: (D-10th District, El Cerrito, Kensington) 2121 N. California Blvd., Suite 555, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925-932-9899 or 1034 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-1880. E-mail through www.house.gov/tauscher

State Senate

Don Perata: (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley) State Capitol, Room 4061, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-445-6577. Fax: 916-327-1997; 1515 Clay St., No. 2202, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-286-1333. Fax: 510-286-3885. E-mail: senator.perata@sen.ca.gov

Tom Torlakson: (D-7th District: El Cerrito, Kensington) 2801 Concord Blvd., Concord CA 94519; 800-859-9900 or State Capitol, Room 2068, Sacramento CA 95814; 916-445-6083, e-mail: senator.torlakson@sen.ca.gov

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3665; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

County Supervisors

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

EBMUD

David Richardson: Ward No. 4 (Albany, Berkeley, and Emeryville; part of Oakland; El Cerrito and Kensington. E-mail: Oakport@igc.org

East Bay Regional Parks

Jean Siri: Ward 1 (Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Kensington, part of Pinole, and San Pablo). E-mail: jsiri@ebparks.org

AC Transit

Joe Wallace: Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

Steges Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at www.stegesd.dst.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany. 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

School boards

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

WRITE TO THE JOURNAL

Letters to the editor and op-ed pieces reflect the opinion of the writer and must include the author's first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. Maximum letter length is 300 words. Maximum op-ed length is 450 words.

Letters are subject to editing for brevity, grammar and style. Not all letters may be published.

Mail: 4301 Lakeside Dr., Richmond, CA 94806

Fax: 510-262-2776

E-mail: wcletters@cctimes.com

Please write JOURNAL LETTERS on the envelope, at the top of the fax or in the subject field of the message.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

STAR WARS RETURNS FOR THE FINAL TIME

I can't wait to see
Captain Kirk Skywalker
in action again!



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Keep an open mind about the waterfront

In letters to the Journal (April 1 and May 13), Robert Cheasty wrote that Professor Judy Innes is a longtime advocate of development. He stated, "She favors development, I favor a shoreline park."

What does Cheasty's statement really say? The development many of us favor is well back from the shoreline, behind the grandstand on stable land. It provides parkland and trails at the shoreline, and a development no bigger in size than what the Sierra Club is planning for the eastern side of Golden Gate Fields.

That area, if returned to the marshland it originally was, is potentially most valuable for the Bay and the habitat. Also, that area is the most unstable land on the property and could not possibly sustain underground parking, as suggested by the Sierra Club.

Pro-development is a red herring dragged out when someone has the temerity to question the Sierra Club plan for the waterfront. The real questions needing discussion are where development should be, how much, who or what should benefit, and what are the short- and long-term consequences.

I have known Innes for more than 20 years, and she could not be described as pro-development unless you also accuse the Sierra Club of being pro-development.

Many of us have participated in saving the waterfront lands and waters, starting in 1963. We disagree with the Sierra Club plan, and we have joined together under the umbrella of the Albany Waterfront Coalition to encourage dialogue.

It is a sad day to paraphrase a statement by Innes) when the only one listening to all segments of the community is the developer. I urge Marjorie Atkinson, and others who believe the Sierra Club plan is the only answer to the issues on the waterfront, to have an open mind and listen to others in this small town.

Ruth Ganong
Albany

Ganong is a former Albany mayor and former Bay Conservation Commissioner.

Stop the radical Republicans

The radical Republicans and their allies have increasingly resorted to the disturbing tactic of demonizing and threatening federal judges.

On May 1, Pat Robertson took this appalling strategy to new heights when he declared that these judges pose a more serious threat than "a few bearded terrorists who fly into buildings." This pattern of threats and intimidation is highly damaging to our democracy.

They are now scheming to break the rules of the Senate and stack the courts with far-right judges. It is time to stop them from their radical "nuclear option" of cutting off filibusters.

Ann Lehman
El Cerrito

Shadowy fund-raising

Lucky thing for Hillary Clinton that she is a Democrat!

You can bet your bottom dollar that if she were a Republican, she would have been a topic of bold front-page articles and a prime subject for liberal lefties on talk shows.

The New York Times would surely have a field day with her being connected with the very shadowy political fund-raising practices with which she is currently being connected.

Bill Olivito
El Cerrito

Practice what we preach

It is simply incredible that President Bush can go to Russia and lecture them on what constitutes a democracy, and, yet, we are hanging by a thread in this country.

Bush stated that a hallmark of a free country is an independent judiciary and, yet, this is really threatened by the elimination of the power to filibuster to allow a Senate minority to weigh in on lifetime judicial appointments.

America deserves better. The candidates who are being rejected for a second time are trying to dismantle decades of progress in standing up for the rights of all Americans to employee rights, clean air, water and workplaces, and the right to be free from undue search and seizure.

We need to understand that the soul of our country is at stake in this issue and stand for what makes us great — our willingness to tolerate differences and to embrace real freedoms.

Laura Brainin-Rodriguez
El Cerrito

Help stop vandalism

I am a student in the sixth grade at Castro Elementary in El Cerrito.

Our school has recently been the victim of break-ins, such as graffiti, window breaking and arson, on top of budget cuts. Whatever wasn't devastated by budget cuts and layoffs has been destroyed by vandalism.

We need the community's help to just drive by on weekends or in their spare time and report emergencies to 911 and non-emergency suspicious activity to 510-215-4400.

If the vandals see that there are people driving by and around the campus and reporting anything suspicious, they will stop vandalizing and, hopefully, do something worthwhile.

Money and book donations will be gratefully accepted (our school library fell victim to arson). Call the school at 510-234-6200 for more information.

Irene Rojas-Carroll
El Cerrito

Right of self-defense

The recently enacted Florida law about firearms use in self-defense updates that

state's current concealed carry law to prevent individuals being attacked from having to retreat before exercising the right to defend themselves.

California politics and the media are so laden with anti-gun folks that concealed carry rights may never happen here, resulting in crime rates being higher than they could otherwise be.

Gary Buffon
El Cerrito

The 'nuclear option'

As a mother of a 14-year-boy who recently studied American history, it's hard to explain to him what is happening to the "three branches of government" that he was taught about in middle school.

It's hard to explain that our present administration wants to change the rules that have governed this country for more than 200 years.

"What happened to the 'separation of powers'?" he asks. "What happened to the separation of church and state?"

I am at a loss to answer my son.

Debbie Perkins-Kalama
Albany

Love reading Snapp's column

Martin Snapp recently confessed in print, "What I love most is writing this column."

Now, it's my turn to confess that one of the things I love most is reading his columns.

Time and again, he "Snapps" into a subject and leaves me moved, informed — and wanting more.

Just in the past few months, I've especially appreciated his rousing defense of the late Judge Stanley Golde, before the scurrilous charges against the jurist were dropped.

And his vivid portraits of Lillianne Clark the elevator operator in the UC Berkeley campanile (aka "Rapunzel" or "the mistress of the tower") and of his brother Kenny who donated stem cells in a doomed effort to save another brother. And his piece about the deep friendship between Rabbi David Cooper and the Rev. Ron Sebring.

Snapp's writing polishes everyday subjects and ordinary people into many-faceted jewels.

Thank you for this gift to your readers.

Marian Magid
Berkeley

Sniffing out reasons for 'offensive odor' regulations

Issue of the week:
Promoting training to sensitize library staff to issues affecting poor people and to attitudes and other barriers that hinder poor people's use of libraries.

Policy objective #11, American Library Association Library Services for the Poor



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

point it is nauseating, permeates an area, and/or prevents use of needed resources."

It has followed this rule with a link to a note that can be presented — or read, I assume, since not everyone can see and/or read — to the offending patron. This note starts out: "We need to bring an awkward situation to your attention ... The library staff has had complaints from patrons, and has determined that your odor is a problem."

It ends with the name and telephone number of the county librarian.

Another example is the Hillsborough County Public Library in Florida. On its Web site is a page called: "Your Library ... For All to Enjoy," and it includes a list of rules, divided by bold headings into different categories, such as "Personal Belongings," "Bicycles" and "Offensive Behavior." That

last one is where the odors policy can be found: "Customers whose body or clothing emit odors so offensive so as to constitute a nuisance or health risk to others will be asked to leave the library and not return until they have bathed and/or washed their clothing." The page ends with the words: "If necessary, the authorities will be called."

My question is: What exactly is the intent of these odor policies? To some, it is a camouflaged attack on homeless people. John Halpin of the National Homeless Civil Rights Organizing Project is quoted on citybeat.com as saying: "We're disappointed that a public place such as the library ... would block access to a group of people based on circumstances that are quite possibly out of their control." And in Houston, where the city council passed a library regulation that includes "offensive bodily hygiene," two of the council members voted against it because of concerns that the homeless population was being targeted.

I don't believe these libraries are intentionally targeting anyone. But I do believe there may be unintended victims of these

policies, and that it is up to those who make the rules to look beyond a policy and its consequences and ask themselves why it seems necessary. And ask themselves, too, whether they are truly treating everyone equally. If a local celebrity or politician came into the library wearing a strong perfume, would they be asked to leave? Public libraries were established to serve everyone in the same way. Policies that may — even unintentionally — target a particular group should be closely examined

and reexamined. In these days of budget cuts and convenient all-purpose bookstores, library administrators can find themselves constantly considering how to please the taxpayer public. Making a library palatable to the majority of users can be one choice, but if it leads to the disenfranchisement of a particular group, the price may be too high.

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@aclib.org or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720 ext. 20.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Join a weekly sing-along at the **Albany Library**, 4:30-5 p.m. Wednesdays. The singing session is led by Dale Allen Boland, who has been leading community music programs for more than 15 years. Free; no registration required.

The **Albany Library** is at 1247 Marin Ave. For information on its services and programs, call 510-526-3720 ext. 20.

Come to the **El Cerrito Library** and learn about the summer reading program, "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds." The program runs June 10-Aug. 20 and offers kids a chance to read books and earn prizes.

"Dragoon," a funny puppet show about a dragon with a problem, will be presented at 11 a.m. June 11 by P&T Puppets.

Readers Anonymous, the library's book club, meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Copies of the current selection are available at the check-out desk. Next up: "Middlesex," by Jeffrey Eugenides (May 24).

The **El Cerrito Library** is at 6510 Stockton Ave. For more information, call 510-526-7512.

Family Storytime is held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the **Kensington Library**, except when preempted by special programs.

Computer classes meet every Monday at 7 p.m. Next topic: Word-processing basics using Microsoft Word, on Monday.

The **Kensington Library** is at 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707-1098. Phone: 510-524-3043.

— Compiled by Deborah Byrd

EL CERRITO SCHOOL NOTES

El Cerrito High School

Auditions for the ECHS Concert band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, and Jazz Ensemble will be held on June 2, 3, 6 and 7 in the band room. All students must audition in order to be placed in a band. Details available from Mr. Brown in the band room. If you have any questions, call him at 510-524-9714 or e-mail roland-brown@yahoo.com.

Mr. Mason needs an amp or tuner to play music in his classroom. workdone1@earthlink.net or 510-233-0611

Volunteers are needed for Grad Night at the Golden Gate Fields Turf Club. Hours are 10 p.m. June 10 to 5 a.m. June 11. E-mail smendzh@ebcglobal.net or fourk1g@aol.com.

Sandra D. Rice, vice president of CBS Eastern Region announces: "We are currently recruiting minority high school juniors, seniors, and college freshmen for paid internships in media (television, cable, radio) stations throughout the United States. Selected students will earn an hourly salary and be given matching scholarship dollars funds to help pay college expenses, as well as develop a resume. The internships will start Summer 2005 and last throughout their college years. Eligible candidates must have a 3.0 GPA, plan or currently attend a 4-year college, and have an interest in media." The application is available online at: www.ern-mabowenfoundation.com/main.html.

Madera Elementary School

Madera Elementary School will hold its annual spring carnival on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Harding Elementary

Harding Coffee Klatch with the principal is Wednesday, June 1. Mrs. Taylor would like to invite parents or guardians of Harding students to stop in for a casual social gathering at the last coffee klatch of the school year. If you have a school-related or parenting-related issue to discuss go to school office and they will add it to the agenda. The meeting is at 8:35 a.m., Harding Staff Room.

PTA meeting, Monday June 6, at 7 p.m. Members will vote on officers and activity/event leaders for 2005-06.

— Source: El Cerrito school e-mail trees

ALBANY SCHOOL NOTES

Albany High School

Senior class will host a luncheon in the Golden Gate Fields from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. June 10 in the Veterans Memorial Building in Memorial Park. Volunteers are needed to make salads, bake or buy cookies and brownies, and clean up. Volunteers should contact Beth Pirke at bethpirke@hotmail.com.

High school tickets are still on sale. The tickets will be at the Turf Club at Golden Gate Fields from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. after graduation. Activities will include karaoke, a DJ, casino games (for money) and good food. Tickets are \$50. Call 510-526-7512.

May 26: Open House, 7 p.m.-8 p.m., Science Fair, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., multi-purpose room.

June 4: Silly Olympics and Silent Auction, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

June 9: PTA meeting, volunteer recognition.

June 15: Crazy Hat Day, school barbecue, fifth-grade vs. staff kickball game, 12:30-1:15 p.m.

program needs a volunteer coordinator. Contact Allan Fone or any of the PTA co-chairs.

In the past, fourth-grade parents have volunteered to help run graduation so parents of graduating fifth-graders could relax and enjoy the experience. The search is on for parents of fourth-graders who can help with set-up, food service, possibly food shopping, and clean-up. Graduation will be June 16, and help will be needed from around 11 a.m.-3 p.m. If you can help, please contact Eden at ecobrienbrenner@baymaca.org or 510-527-7333.

May 26: Open House, 7 p.m.-8 p.m., Science Fair, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., multi-purpose room.

June 4: Silly Olympics and Silent Auction, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

June 9: PTA meeting, volunteer recognition.

June 15: Crazy Hat Day, school barbecue, fifth-grade vs. staff kickball game, 12:30-1:15 p.m.

June 16: Graduation ceremony, 12:45 p.m.

June 15: Field Day

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Ocean View Elementary

On May 26, Bob Slous will lead the band at 10 a.m., and volunteers will be honored at 10:45. Talent show auditions will be held on May 24 after school in the multi-purpose room and on May 27 at lunch. Especially encouraged are musical instruments from other countries, folk dancing, singing, and children working as a team. Dress rehearsal is scheduled for June 8 at 10 a.m., with an evening performance at 6:30 p.m.

May 20: Music concert K-3 and parent volunteer recognition, 10:45 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

May 24: Fifth grade group picture and talent show auditions, 3:05 p.m.

May 26: Band concert and upper-grade parent volunteer recognition, 10 a.m.

May 26: Open House and Science Investigations.

May 27: Aaliya Golden's book art exhibit, library.

May 31: Site Council meeting, 4:30 p.m., ELA Room.

June 8: Talent show, 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

June 15: Field Day

June 16: Graduation ceremony, 12:45 p.m.

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Marin Elementary School

School modernization projects will begin June 20. The playground will be closed to facilitate installation of new or revamped facilities, including the roof, handicapped access ramp, bathrooms, intercom and telephone system, fire alarm, heating/air conditioning system, and Internet access.

The state is funding summer school only for students in grades 1-5 who are not meeting grade-level standards in reading, language arts and math and/or are at risk of retention. Applications have gone out to those students. Meanwhile, because summer school enrollment is limited, parents are reminded to make arrangements now for summer child care and recreational activities, for which information is available in the office.

May 26: Open House and Science Investigations Fair, 7 p.m.-8 p.m.

June 8: Community Sing, 8:35 a.m.

June 14: BBQ and Hat Day, fifth grade balloon toss at noon.

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Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received **Thursdays** one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Pam Middings, 1516 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail them to pmiddings@cctimes.com or fax them to 510-748-1680. Call 510-748-1683 if you have questions.

Children

■ **Ashkenaz**, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents the following show for the kids: Gary Lapow 3 p.m. **May 22**, \$4 kids/\$6 adults (babies under 1 free). Admission: \$4 children, \$6 adults (babies under one years old free). Details: www.ashkenaz.com.

■ **Habitat Children's Museum**, 2065 Kittredge St., presents **Usborne Bilingual Book Fair May 23-28**; "Little Readers and Friends" Night 5-7 p.m. **May 26**. Free. Storytelling, alphabet necklace making, alphabet magnet play, literacy-based art activities. — Scholastic Early Childhood Book Fair June 1-6. Little Reader Book Fairs are daily: buy new books; proceeds help Habitat give books to low-income families. — Water Safety Day is June 3: Barbara Cheatham from Alameda County Health Department provides information on how to keep your child safe in water this summer. — Choke Saving Skills

Day is June 7. Hashim Anderson, EMT will demonstrate choke saving skills at 11 a.m. — Car Seat Check 10 a.m.-12 p.m. **June 18, July 23**: Berkeley Police Department will check installation on your child's car seat at UC Garage, Addison at Oxford streets. Details: www.habitot.org or 510-647-1111.

■ **Redwood Day Middle School** presents "Story Theater PLUS!" 7 p.m. **May 26** at Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave. Free. Winged Pig Theater (middle schoolers from Redwood Day School) and Actors With Out Lines (students at the College of Marin) present a sizzling blend of folktales, adapted from Paul Sills' StoryTheater, PLUS. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ Julia Morgan Center for the Arts presents the film "Freaky Friday" as part of their **Family Film Sunday Series** 11 a.m. **May 29** at 2640 College Ave. Barbara Harris and Jodie Foster star as a mother-daughter duo in Disney's original 1977 version. Tickets: \$5 at door. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

Community

■ **Hopalong Animal Rescue** presents the following pet adoption event: cats 12-3 p.m. **May 21** at Your Basic Bird, 2940 College Ave. Details: 510-267-1915 or www.hopalong.org.

■ **Ecology Center's Berkeley farmer's markets** are at three locations and times: Tuesday's market is 2-7 p.m. on Derby Street at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. — North Shattuck farmers market is 3-7 p.m. Thursdays at Shattuck Avenue at Rose Street. It features all organically grown produce. — Saturday's market is 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Civic Center Park, Center Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. All markets open year 'round, rain or shine. Details: 510-548-3333 or go to www.ecologycenter.org. Upcoming events: **May 21** Strawberry tasting 10 a.m.-3 p.m., cooking demonstrations 11 a.m., book signing and talk 11:30 a.m., choral music 1 p.m.

■ **California Writers Club** (Berkeley Branch)'s next meetings, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Event Loft, 98 Broadway, Jack London Square: **May 21** theme is "Harness Your Dragons" to improve productivity and creativity with speaker Jane Porter, novelist. — **June 4** theme: "Budding Writers Bloom," features three top prizewinners of the 19th annual Fifth Grade Writing Contest reading their work. Free. Details: 510-482-0265 or www.berkeleywritersclub.org.

■ **Berkeley Public Library's** North Branch presents 26th annual **Quilt Show** on display through **May 21** at 1170 The Alameda. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays; 12-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays. Details: 510-981-6250.

■ **Satsuki Arts Festival and Bazaar** is 4-9 p.m. **May 21**, 12-7 p.m. **May 22** at Berkeley Buddhist Temple, 2121 Channing Way. Event includes Japanese drum group Somel Yoshino

Taiko Ensemble, other musical performers, Japanese food, Asian arts and crafts, a silent auction and carnival games. Free. 510-841-1356 or <http://home.pacbell.net/bsangha>.

■ **Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center**, 1414 Walnut St., presents: "From the Shet to La Scala: A Recital with Heather Klein" 2 p.m. **May 22**. Fee: \$5. — Philip Roth Book Club meets 7:30 p.m. **May 23**. \$10; registration required. — "Adopt! The Jewish Connection" 7:30 p.m. **May 23**. Panel of adoptive, prospective parents discuss raising multiracial children with a Jewish identity. \$10/person, \$15/couple. Details: 510-839-2900 x347. — "Punim: Our Spoken Treasures" free exhibit through **June 7** in lobby. Details: 510-948-0237 or www.brjcc.org.

■ **Recreational Equipment, Inc.** (REI) Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave., presents: Free Hands-on Bicycle Clinic 10-11:30 a.m. **May 22**. — Mount Rainier, the Alaska Range and Rescues: A Climbing Ranger's Perspective 7 p.m. **May 24**. — Backpacking 101 is 7 p.m. **May 31**. REI Service Project at Tilden Regional Park 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **June 4**. Details: 510-527-4140.

■ **Heart's Leap School** benefit "An Evening with Jon Carroll" is 7 p.m. **May 23** at Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave. All proceeds go to Heart's Leap, a non-profit preschool. Tickets: \$18; call 925-798-1300. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **Berkeley High School Site** Council meets 4:30-6 p.m. **May 23** in school library, 1980 Allston Way. On

agenda are fees from student clubs for school accountant; Tenth-Grade Counseling program; and new Site Plan. All representatives and alternates should attend, and anyone interested is welcome. Details: bhs.berkeleypta.org/sec.

■ **Bay Area Community Services** presents special lunch days 12-1 p.m. at various locations in Alameda County: May birthdays eat free on **May 24**. Donation \$2.25. Details/reservations: 510-986-8900 or www.bayareacs.org.

■ **League of Women Voters** - West Contra Costa County's annual luncheon meeting is 12 p.m. **May 24** at Denny's restaurant, 11344 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. Guest speaker Leonard McNeil, San Pablo City Councilmember, discusses of casinos and local finance. Mr. McNeil is also Family Services Coordinator at Crescent Park Multi-Cultural Family Resource Center in Richmond. Luncheon reservations/menu choices: 510-232-3767.

■ **North Berkeley Senior Center**, 1901 Hearst Ave., presents free special events: New handheld magnifiers demonstrated for low vision seniors 1 p.m. **May 25**. — "Yiddish Theater Remembered" talk and slide show by Murray Rosenthal 1 p.m. **May 27**. Details: 510-981-5190.

■ **KITKA's Vechirka** (Ukrainian party) is 8 p.m. **May 25** at Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St. Slavic music: Oia Herasymenko Olynyk performs on bandura, cuisine, auction. Admission: \$50; supports KITKA's Ukrainian performance tour, Rusalka Project research expedition. Details: www.kitka.org or 510-444-0323.

■ **Berkeley Gray Panthers** presents "Next Steps for Winning Universal Health Care for California" 10-11 p.m. **May 25** at North Berkeley Center, 1901 Hearst Ave. Donations for Health Care for All California Senate Bill 840. Details: 548-9696.

■ **Chabed of the East Bay** presents "Lag B'Omer Picnic/Bar & B.Q." **May 26** at Tilden Park, Piedmont Area. Astro Bounce, live music, food concession, marshmallow bonfire, raffle for all children. Details: 510-540-5824.

■ **Older People United's** "Senioring is 1:30 p.m. **May 26** at the Panther Office, 1403 Addison. Discussion and support group for elders over 75, led by Jeanne Hummer, pathos, concerns, etc. welcome. Details: 510-548-9888.

■ **Dicks Carpet One** store is sponsoring a limited-edition Spring Wedding to support the American Cancer Society in its fight against cancer through **May** at 1095 Ashby Ave. Four exclusive designs available. \$19.99 each.

■ **American Red Cross's** annual mobile blood drive: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. **May 26** at 1400 Ashby Ave. Details: www.BeaDonor.com or 1-800-451-1400.

■ **Longfellow Middle School's** annual Spring Fair is 11 a.m.-5 p.m. **May 27** at 1500 Derby St., in Longfellow ground at Sacramento and the streets. Proceeds benefit Longfellow programs. Community fees waived.

See CALENDAR, Page 2

Prime Life In C

Piedmont Gardens... Just Off the Avenue, Just Right for You!

Location and the friendliness of our residents make Piedmont Gardens Continuing Care Retirement Community just right for you. Piedmont Gardens offers the greatest flexibility in care and services to seniors at any age or level of need. Vibrant, active and friendly residents welcome new friends! Just off Piedmont

Avenue in the heart of the popular shopping district, goods, services and entertainment are within two blocks of your new home. Just imagine your life without the responsibilities of home ownership. All Residential Living apartments have full-sized kitchens and step-in showers (bath tubs are avail-

able). A Vitality program to keep you fit, classes to expand your knowledge, year-round music programs, great food, wonderful conversations and spectacular views are awaiting you at Piedmont Gardens. Call Kathy Lutz, 510-596-2600 for more information and to schedule a tour.

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www.salem.lutheranhome.org

RCFE Lic # 015600254 • SNF Lic # CA020000442 • CCR Lic # 178

Mercy Retirement & Care Center

Oakland • 510.534.8540

www.mercyretirementcenter.org

RCFE Lic # 015600255 • SNF Lic # CA020000237

Elder Care Alliance Communities

Elder Care Alliance is co-sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Regional Community of Burlingame and the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.



Lifetime Income with Reverse Mortgages

The reverse mortgage has become an important source of lifetime income for senior citizens who need additional monthly income, a lump sum, or both. Many misconceptions exist about reverse mortgages.

Misconception #1: Once the maximum loan is reached, the house must be sold or the loan paid back.

Not true! You will receive your monthly benefit for as long as you reside in the home, no matter how long that is.

Misconception #2: When I no longer live in my home, the home's ownership will revert to the lender.

Not true! When you no longer reside in the home, you will probably sell it. When the home is sold, the accrued loan balance will be repaid, and the remaining sale proceeds will be distributed to you or your heirs.

Your reverse mortgage loan consultant will be able to address any questions and concerns you may have about this financial product.

Mercy Center

The season of year at Mercy thousands of seniors to live on fixed income Retirement & Care established the Bag Program to income seniors reside throughout County. The program was launched together "senior seniors" through a program that the distribution of groceries that are the senior-in-home program depend volunteers who recipients themselves donations which through individual organizations. A constant need of help keep this

Seniors and are invited to Berkshire, a community secure and separate secured and dementia currently the living facility of Berkeley. One of the most beautiful gardens ground-floor units of several gardens one set aside for care area, which story units balconies. The include a magnolia trees. The Berkshire

GRO

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Next Senior Page to publish June 17, 2005
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Exhibits

■ **UC Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive**, 2625 Durant Ave. #2250, presents: 35th annual Master of Fine Arts Exhibition **May 20-June 19**; "Drawn by the Brush: Oil Sketches by Peter Paul Rubens" through **May 22**; Matrix 216: Slater Bradley "The Year of the Doppelgänger" through **June 26**; "Blind at the Museum" through **July 24**; "Narrative Moral Models in Chinese and Japanese Painting" through **July 24**; "Acting Out: Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore" through **Aug. 7**. Details: go to www.bampfa.berkeley.edu or call 510-842-0808.

■ **North Berkeley Frame and Gallery** presents "Small Paintings" by John King through **May 21** at 1744 Shattuck Ave. Hours: Tuesdays-Fridays 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Details: 510-549-0428.

■ **Kol Hadash** (nontheistic, Humanistic) Shabbat with Rabbi Jay Heyman: The Making of a Humanistic Rabbi is 7:30 p.m. **May 27** at Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. Please bring finger dessert to share for Oneg, and non-perishable food for the needy. Details: 510-428-1492.

■ **Alvarado Artists Group** will exhibit their work during **May, June** at the Giorgio Gallery, 2911 Claremont Ave. Painters Kristen Jensen, Sally Smith, and Ross Carlton, along with Gillian Servais, photographer and James Servais, sculptor, will be featured through **May 30**. Works of Barbara K. Werner, ceramist, Marilyn MacGregor, ceramic sculptor, MJ Orcutt, mixed media artist,

Carla Dole, book artist, and Joan Mikkelsen, photographer, will be on display **June 1-July 3**. Artists' receptions will be held on **June 9, 11**. Details: 510-848-1228 or www.giorgiogallery.com.

■ **"Absolutely Abstract"** art exhibit by Zarmine Aghazarian, Peggy Cotton and Andrea Markus shows through **May** at Innersport's gallery, Strawberry Creek Design Center, 1250 Addison St., Suite 102. Details: 510-883-1126 or go to www.innersport.com.

■ **Gallery 940** presents Ruth von Jahnke Waters' "Between Dimensions" exhibit through **May 31** at 940 Dwight Way. Details: 550-594-1577.

■ Paintings by local artist **Jean Hearst** are showing through **June 30** at YWCA at UC Berkeley, 2600 Bancroft Way. Artist's reception 6-8 p.m. **June 2**. Details: www.jeanhearst.com.

■ **Turn of the Century Fine Arts** presents "The Work of Jacob Clark" painting exhibit through **June 6** at 2510 San Pablo Ave. Hours: Fridays-Sundays 1-5 p.m. or by appointment. Details: 510-849-0950 or www.turnofthecenturyfinearts.com.

■ **Berkeley Public Library**, 2090 Kiltredge St., presents black and white print exhibit "Overcoming Faceless Labor: Farmworkers Through the Lens of Almodena Ortiz" showing in library's First Floor Catalog lobby through **June 15**. Details: 510-981-6100 or www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

■ **Judah L. Magnes Museum**, 2911 Russell St., presents: "Acting Out: Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore" through **July 31** at Reutlinger Gallery; "Revisions: Naomie Kremer, Shitl" through **July 31**. — "The People and

the Book: Paintings and Rare Books from the Museum's Collection" through **July 3** in Second Floor Gallery. Free. Details: 510-549-6950 or www.magnes.org.

■ **Innersport's** spring art show runs until **August** at 1250 Addison St. #102. Show features work by Scott Courtenay-Smith, Sally Kiehn and Nita Moreno. Details: www.innersport.com.

■ **Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive**, 2625 Durant Ave., offers the following exhibitions: — "Turning Corners", a collection of radical/nonconformist artists, and "Figurations", a changing variety of perspectives on the human form, through **Jan. 22, 2006**. — Details: 510-642-0808.

Film/dance/stage

■ **La Pena Cultural Center**, 3105 Shattuck Ave., hosts the upcoming events: 3rd annual International Hip Hop Exchange Sin Fronteras 9 p.m. **May 20** \$8-\$10. Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company, Ro-4 Records 8:30 p.m. **May 21**. Conversation with artists 7:30 p.m. \$10-\$12. — Peace Brigades International with Kid Beyond 7:30 p.m. **May 22**. \$15-\$25. — 9th International Latino Film Festival presents "Oscar" 7:30 p.m. **May 26**. \$8. Obateleo, directed by Alexis Zayas Rosabal 8 p.m. **May 27**. \$15. — Jose Seves, Elizabeth Morris 8 p.m. **May 28**. \$12. Ro Sham Bo, Irrationals 7:30 p.m. **June 2**. \$5-\$10. Details: 510-849-2568 or go to www.lapena.org.

■ **Ashkenaz Music and Dance Community Center**, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents: Los Bros 9:30 p.m. **May 20**. \$9-\$11. — West African Highlife Band 9:30

p.m. **May 21**; African dance lesson with Comfort Mensah 9 p.m. \$11-\$13. — Flamenco Open Stage with Stephanie Neira, Grupo Sabores de Espana, La Miri and students 7:30 p.m. **May 22**. \$10. — Sauce Piquante 8:30 p.m. **May 24**; Cajun dance lesson at 8 p.m. \$9. — Jug Free America 8:30 p.m. **May 25**. \$9. — Benefit for family of George Robinson of "George and the Wonders" 9:30 p.m. **May 26**. \$10-\$20 sliding scale. — Congolese Soukous Band Afro-Muzika 8:30 p.m. **May 27**. African dance lesson with Comfort Mensah 9 p.m. \$11-\$13. — Rhythm and blues with Johnny Otis Living Tribute Band 9 p.m. **May 28**. \$10-\$12. Details: 510-525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com.

■ **Berkeley Ballet Theater** presents "Barre to Bravura" 7 p.m. **May 20**, 21; 2 p.m. **May 21**, 22 at Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave. Tickets: \$18 adult, \$14 children; available at door. A program of classical and modern ballet pieces from the most basic movements at the barre to a rousing Grande Finale. Performed entirely by students of all ages from the BBT Children's Division and Youth Company. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **Contra Costa Civic Theatre's** "Jekyll and Hyde: The Musical" by Frank Wildhorn and Leslie Bricusse shows through **May 21** at 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. Showtimes: Friday, Saturdays 8 p.m.; April 24, May 1, 8, 15 2 p.m. A tale of epic battle between good and evil, based on Robert Louis Stevenson's classic about a brilliant doctor whose experiments with human personality create a murderous counterpart. Admission: \$12-\$20. Details: 510-524-9132 or www.cccct.org.

■ **Actors Ensemble of Berkeley** holds auditions for Agatha Christie's "A Murder is Announced" 7:30 p.m. **May 22**, 23 at Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave. Parts for five men, six women aged 20-55, plus "elderly" Miss Marple. Performances will be July-August. Details: 510-233-8283 or www.aeofberkeley.org.

■ **Subterranean Shakespeare** presents "The Taming of the Shrew" 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays **May 26-June 24** at Berkeley Arts Centre, 1275 Walnut St. Tickets: 510-276-3871.

■ **Impact Theatre** presents new installment of short comic plays "Impact Briefs 7: the How-To Show" 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday nights through **May 28** at La Val's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave. Tickets: \$10-\$15. Details: 510-464-4468.

■ **Azahar Dance Foundation** presents "Las Buenas Flamenquitas" 8 p.m. **May 28** at Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave. Young bay area flamenco dancers perform classical flamenco repertoire pieces, accompanied by professional musicians and singers. Tickets: \$17 adult, \$10 children 5-12 yrs.; call 925-798-1300. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **Shakti Dance Company** presents Mythili Prakash in solo Bharata Natyam Dance of India 6:30 p.m. **May 29** at Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave. Mythili Prakash performs "The Dance Eternal," an evocative beauty, grandeur, and eternal relevance of a classical ancient Indian Dance art form, Bharata Natyam. Mythili is disciple/daughter of Bharata Natyam virtuosos, Viji Prakash, who leads musical

See CALENDAR, Page A8

Care to the

Alzheimer's : When Is It Time to Choose a Care Community?

Gerry's wife, Nina, has Alzheimer's. She wanders the house at night and Gerry doesn't sleep for fear of harm that could occur to Nina. He's beginning to wonder how much longer he can manage.

There are no standard indicators for when it's time to move someone with Alzheimer's into a care community. The choice is as the people living with Alzheimer's disease. And for many families it's a difficult choice that must be made.

Some of the most common reasons for moving a family member with memory loss into a care community include caregiver exhaustion, home is no longer safe, family has competing demands or lives too far away, and paying for in-home care is too expensive.

Care giving does not end when placement has been made. Moving to a care community creates a different relationship with your family member. When family members no longer provide intimate, personal care for a spouse or parent they can return to a more social relationship, often times a much improved relationship.

Lakeside Park is a premier residential community specializing in care for seniors with Alzheimer's and other dementia's. We provide personalized resident care and compassionate family support. Visit our community and receive the booklet, Moving a Relative with Memory Loss, while supplies last. Make an appointment by calling Janet or Kate at (510) 444-4684.

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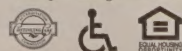
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Calendar

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ensemble to accompany dance. Tickets: \$15 advance, \$15-\$20 at door; call 925-798-1300. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** presents "The People's Temple" at 8 p.m. through May 29 at Roda Theatre, 2015 Addison St. Story explores circumstances leading to Peoples Temple/Jonestown tragedy. Tickets: 510-647-2949 or www.berkeleyrep.org.

■ **Contra Costa Civic Theatre** presents "Private Lives," a PlayMakers production of Noel Coward's flippant comedy June 3-12 at 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. Fridays-Saturdays 8 p.m., Sundays 2 p.m. Tickets: \$10. Details: 510-524-9132 or www.cccot.org.

■ **Creative Work Fund** and The Oakland Youth Chorus present "Bembere Mungu (Telling My Story)" 7 p.m. June 4 at Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave. An evening of Zimbabwian dance, music, ceremony and storytelling with Julia Tseti Chigamba and the Chigamba family. Tickets: \$12-\$18; 925-798-1300. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **Garnelan Sekar Jaya Balinese Music and Dance Workshops** are five consecutive Wednesdays 7:30-9 p.m. through June 8 in El Cerrito Beginning and Intermediate Levels. Fee: \$60 total with pre-registration, or \$15 per session. Details/location: 510-237-8849 or www.gsj.org.

Health

■ **Weekly introductory-level Buddhist Meditation** classes led by ordained nun Kelsang Chogyang, Buddhist meditation teacher are Tuesdays 7-8:30 p.m. in Berkeley. Learn art of relaxation and stress-release, as well as discover far-reaching benefits derived from all aspects of Buddhist meditation. Kadampa Buddhism. Suggested donation: \$10 (\$5 students/limited income). A non-profit org. Details: 510-559-8183 or visit www.kadampas.org.

■ **YWCA Health and Community Education** features drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more at University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; cost: \$8-\$10. Details: 510-848-6370.

■ **Voices of Healing**, a group exploring psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness and healing, meets on second Friday of each month, 1-2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley. Call 510-528-1235 for more information.

■ **South Berkeley Senior Center** 2939 Ellis St., offers a free aerobics, stretching, strengthening fitness class for adults 55+. The class is taught by Naomi Puro. For more information, call 510-981-5170.

Learning

■ **Loose Leash Walking** dog obedience class is 11 a.m.-12 p.m. May 21 at RabbitCare, 303 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Certified dog trainer Sasha Furan also teaches city manners such as sitting/waiting at corner, moving out of others' way. No dog techniques stressed. Fee: \$35 (or two one-hour classes for \$60). Reservations: 510-525-6155.

■ **St. John's Prime Timers Senior Center**, St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., offers ongoing classes in exercise, ceramics, copper enameling, weaving, creative writing, and monthly speakers on matters of current interest and travel slide presen-

tations. New members, seniors over 50 welcome. Discount lunches offered. Senior group meets 9:30 a.m. Tuesday mornings, with special events: Charles Fitch will show travel slides 11 a.m. May 24. — "Let's Talk" with Helen 11 a.m. May 31. Details: 510-845-6830.

■ **Berkeley Lawn Bowling Club** presents free lessons Wednesdays and Saturdays 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at 2270 Acton St. at Bancroft Way. Details: Ted 510-232-7129.

■ **Beginning Internet Workshops** take place 10-11 a.m. Saturdays at El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito. Learn basics of Internet mouse skills, email, web searching, and library's online catalog and databases. Free; registration required. Call 510-526-7512 to sign up.

■ **Prospect Sierra School**, 960 Avis Drive in El Cerrito, offers "Community Country Dance", contra, circle, and couple dances from 8-11 p.m. on the second Friday of each month. An intro class is offered at 7:30 p.m. All dances are done to live fiddle music and prompted by caller, Kirstin Kothe. No partners are required. Beginners are welcome. Cost is \$10. Wear clean, no marking shoes. Details: 510-233-7929.

■ **Berkeley Neighborhood Computers**, a non-profit organization, provides high-value and high-demand computer technology training for disadvantaged and at-risk individuals. Details: 510-845-1226 or email bnc@netvalue.net.

■ **Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services** presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. Classes open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, call 510-644-8736.

■ **Albany Library**, 1247 Marin Ave., offers free, ongoing chess instruction Tuesdays, from 6-8 p.m. The lessons range from fundamental to advanced topics, and also casual play. This program is led by David Pruess, who holds the Senior Master title and is one of the top chess players and teachers in California. All levels are welcome and chess sets are provided. Call Julie Winkelstein at 510-526-3720 ext. 19.

■ **Contra Costa Civic Theatre**, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito, offers theatre classes and seminars for children, youth and adults throughout the year including summer camps, stage craft seminars, after-school programs and theatre techniques and improvisation. All classes and seminars are taught by professionals. Details: 510-524-9132 or visit www.cccot.org.

■ **Assets Senior Employment** offers a job training program for income-eligible people 55 and older living in Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley and Albany. Earn when you learn. Interested in working with children? You can receive college credit in Early Childhood Development while being paid. Details: 510-238-3554.

■ **Julia Morgan Center for the Arts**, 2640 College Ave., offers family-friendly program classes, workshops and activities taught by professional teaching artists, all aimed at bringing arts participation into everyday lives. Details: 510-845-8542 or www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **The Reading Edge** is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2090 Kittredge St. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability who requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading

Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call 510-644-6648 to set up a training session.

■ **Berkeley Adult School** offers ceramics classes from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. on Tuesdays at St. John's Senior Center, 2727 College Ave. Classes are free, materials and firing charges are not. Lunch is offered at a minimal charge. For more information, call Diana Bohn at 510-525-5497.

■ **Berkeley Adult School** offers Adult Basic Education classes, High School Diploma Requirement classes, General Educational Development Preparation classes which can be used to earn a GED certificate, and Preparation for US Citizenship classes. Free. BAS also offers, for an affordable fee, a variety of vocational classes and introductory and advanced computer classes. Details: 510-644-6130.

■ **Berkeley Community Media**, Channel 25, offers affordable classes in video production and editing to Berkeley residents. Free orientations designed to introduce BCM to the public are held Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 2239 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. Details: 510-848-2288 and ask for Patrick, John or Sage.

Literary events

■ **Poetry Express** weekly open mike hosted by Mark States is on Mondays at 7 p.m. at Priya Indian Cuisine, 2072 San Pablo Ave. Coming up features: May 23: Cynthia Bryant. May 30: no reading. June 6: Avotcja. June 13: Jan Steckel. June 20: Charles DuBois. June 27: theme night "Fathers and Sons" commemorating Father's Day and Summer Solstice. Email berkeleypoetryexpress@yahoo.com.

■ **Readers Anonymous**, the El Cerrito Library Book Club moderated by Michele Hampshire, presents upcoming selections for meetings held at 7-8 p.m. at 6510 Stockton Ave.: "Middlesex" by Jeffrey Eugenides on May 24; "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time" by Mark Haddon on June 28; and "The Time Traveler's Wife" by Audrey Niffenegger on July 26. Free. Details: 510-526-7512 or go to www.cccolib.org.

Music

■ **Starry Plough Club**, 3101 Shattuck Ave., presents upcoming shows: Morning Line, Cowlicks, Joe Rathbone May 20. \$6. — Shelby Ash presents Old-Time Music Hour: Mercury Dimes, Wrangeltown, Amy and Karen May 21. \$7. — Starry Irish Music Session with Shay Black 8 p.m. May 22, 29. Sliding scale. — Dance Class and Ceili (traditional Irish music session) 7 p.m. class, 9 p.m. session May 23, 30. Free. — May 24, 31 Open Mic 7:30 p.m. Free. — May 25 Berkeley Poetry Slam 8:30 p.m. \$5-\$7. — Mirror Image, Send for Help May 26. \$5. — Two Foot Yard, Plays Monk May 27. \$7. — Boom Bip, Fog, Rapatron May 28. \$8. Jackpot, Nik Freitas June 2. \$6. Details: 510-841-2082 or www.starryploughpub.com. Shows at 9:30 p.m., for ages 21+ unless noted.

■ **Jazzschool**, 2087 Addison St., presents: Jazzschool Jam Sessions Sundays 7:30-10 p.m. Open-mic session where instrumentalists and vocalists are welcome to sit in. Free. — Art of the Trio Series with Dick Hindman Trio 8 p.m. May 20, 27. \$12-\$18. — Sheldon Brown Group 8 p.m. May 21. \$12-\$18. Greta Matassa and Mimi Fox 4:30 p.m. May 22. \$12-\$18. — Art of the Trio Series with Wil Blades Trio 8 p.m. May 28. \$12-\$18. — Victor Mendoza 4:30 p.m. May 29. \$20. Art of the Saxophone Trio with Kenny Brooks Trio 8 p.m. June 4. \$12-\$18. Advance tickets: 510-866-384-3060.

■ **Contra Costa Chorale** conducted by John Montaner presents an eclectic program with the New Millennium Strings Orchestra, under direction of Lauren Jones 2 p.m. May 21 at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. Works include Haydn's "Te Deum"; Martini's "Domine"; and Gibbons' "Hosanna". Tickets \$15, students and seniors \$12, under 16 free. Details: 510-524-1861.

■ **Berkeley City Club** presents bay area pianist, composer Stephanie Varozza in an original solo piano concert of classical jazz fusion 8 p.m. May 21 at 2315 Durant Ave. Tickets: \$15 at door. Details: 510-848-7800.

■ **Shattuck Down Low**, 2284 Shattuck Ave., presents: "King of Kings" Reggae Dance Night 8 p.m. May 22, 29. \$5-\$7. — Tuesdays Karaoke 8 p.m., no cover. Wednesdays "Salsa Night." "Community Thursdays" with DJs 8 p.m. \$5. Details: 510-548-1158 or www.shattuck-downlow.com.

■ **Crowden Music Center** presents Student Spring Concerts at 1475 Rose St.: 4th and 5th Grades 6:30 p.m. May 25; 6th, 7th and 8th Grades 6:30 p.m. May 26. Details: 510-559-2941.

■ **Cal Performances** presents Audra McDonald, soprano in concert 8 p.m. May 27 at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. \$32-\$68. Details: 510-642-9988.

■ **Cal Performances** presents Kurt Elling, piano and vocals in concert 8 p.m. May 28 at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. \$18-\$32. Details: 510-642-9988.

■ **MultiCultural Music Fellowship** presents an afternoon of Harp Music for the Young and the Young at Heart 2 p.m. May 28 at St. Mary Magdalene Church, 2005 Berryman St. Concert features three ensembles: Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble, Triskela Harp Trio, Pleiades Ensemble. Suggested donation: \$15 general, \$5 students/seniors; call 510-548-3326.

■ **"Offerings"** monthly healing concert series presents Distant Oaks 7 p.m. May 29 at Grace North Church, 2138 Cedar St. Upcoming: Mark Deutsch June 26. Donation: \$10. Details: 510-213-3122.

■ **"Tribute to the Divas"** Jazz Festival is June 2-5 at Berkeley Public Library, 2090 Kittredge St. Dr. Dee Spencer gives "Lecture and Video Session on the Legacy of the Divas" 7 p.m. June 2; Denise Pernier and her trio honors Dinah Washington 8 p.m. June 3; Faye Carol honors Billie Holiday 8 p.m. June 4; Frankie Kelly honors Ella Fitzgerald 8 p.m. June 5. Details: 510-981-6100 or www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

■ **Kensington Symphony's** tribute to French music is 8 p.m. June 4 at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. Geoffrey Gallegos, Conductor. Joseph Gold, violin; Olga Chernisheva, soprano, Paul Cheak, baritone; Mark Narins, tenor. Program includes works of Saint-Saens, Debussy, Mackie. Suggested donation: \$10; seniors, \$8. Free. Details: 510-524-4335.

■ **Berkeley Public Library's "Second Thursdays" Nontime Concert Series** features Lutz Plummer, operatic soprano at 12:15 p.m. June 9 in Art and Music



CAL PERFORMANCES presents vocalist and lyricist Kurt Elling in concert at 8 p.m. May 28 at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. Tickets are \$18-\$32. Details: 510-642-9988.

Room, top floor, 2090 Kittredge St. Details: 510-981-6100 or go to www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

■ **Berkeley Faculty Club** on UC Berkeley campus features piano music by Tim Ross and Jack Kruscup 5-8:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday evenings in Kerr dining room. Early Bird specials at \$13.99 available from 5-6:30 p.m. weekdays. Reservations: call 510-540-5678. Details: www.berkeleyfacultyclub.com.

■ **Voci Women's Vocal Ensemble** is currently holding auditions for their Spring 2005 season, culminating in mid-May concerts. The 24-voice group mostly sings classical music from a wide variety of historical periods; this Spring's repertoire includes Brahms, Debussy, Holst and several premieres of new pieces by local composers. Audition consists of ear-training, sight-singing and the performance of a prepared solo piece. For audition

scheduling: contact Artistic Director Jude Navari at 415-425-5716 or Administrative Director Terry Wynn at 510-531-8714 or go to www.vocimenity.org/voci.

■ **Jazz Mine** performs every Friday from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at King of the Hill Japanese Restaurant, 1698 Solano Ave.

Outdoors

■ **University of California Botanical Garden** at Berkeley, 200 Canyon Drive, offers: Bay Friendly Garden Design workshop 10 a.m.-1 p.m. June 4. Free. First Saturday monthly. — Visit a premier bird collection daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursdays. Free Docent Tours Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays. 510-643-2755 or go to www.botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu.

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"If you're going to raise fares, at least give me something — throw me a bone." — Neal Sheridan, BART rider

BART, AC Transit budget considerations lead to demonstrations

By Mike Adamick
TIMES STAFF WRITER

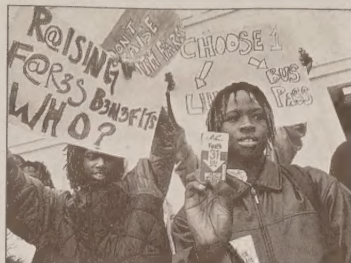
Bay Area transit unions and riders took their cases to the public Wednesday, with student protests at an AC Transit forum in Oakland and leaflet campaigns at 30 BART stations throughout the region.

As both transit districts get ready to adopt new budgets in coming weeks, the rhetoric is moving from the boardroom to the sidewalk — and the general public can only expect to see more of it.

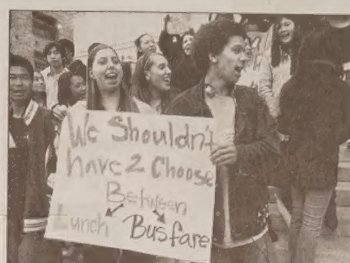
"We're going to keep pressing and let everyone know what's going on," said Harold Brown, a spokesman for the Amalgamated Transit Union, which represents station agents at BART.

Teams of BART union members fanned out to 30 stations throughout the four-county system Wednesday, handing out leaflets to riders. Brown said the effort is in response to BART's own leafletting campaign at stations, where budget information is available for riders.

"We're getting information out there for the average rider,"



CHRIS WILSON, 16, who attends Oakland High School, holds up his bus pass, which he uses every day to get to school, during a youth protest of the AC Transit fee hikes Wednesday in Oakland.



DAN ROSENTRAUCH/TIMES

Brown said.

As BART struggles to close off a \$53 million deficit, unions are protesting a proposed wage freeze and benefit cuts, saying employees keep the stations and trains safe.

Laying off station agents will leave riders without assistance to navigate the system, raising safety issues for disabled people and new riders, Brown said.

BART management, meanwhile, argues unions are asking

for too much — 18 percent raises over three years — as the district looks to balance its books, said spokesman Linton Johnson. The district plans to consider a 10-cent fare surcharge at its board meeting next week to help pay down the deficit. He said BART's budget cuts will still allow for at least one agent to be on duty at all stations at all times.

Riders seemed more concerned about the possibility of fare hikes than union-management squab-

bles. But some voiced support for employees while others said BART workers already earn too much.

Neal Sheridan, an Oakland resident and occasional rider, said BART's 10-cent fare hike plan would be better received if commuters saw longer service hours or more frequent trains.

"If you're going to raise fares, at least give me something — throw me a bone," he said.

As BART union members handed out leaflets downtown, stu-

dents, elderly people and disabled residents convened a few blocks away to protest an impending fare increase for AC Transit bus service. The system, the third-largest in California, hopes to balance its books this year but is looking at a three-year shortfall of up to \$40 million as higher fuel and benefit costs dog the budget.

AC Transit hosted two public forums to discuss an array of options to boost fares, whether across the board or through higher transfer fees.

About 50 students chanted and waived signs outside the meetings and at one point were joined by AC Transit board members who supported efforts to keep youth passes at \$15 a month or lower. Oakland High School senior Adrian Bishop, 17, said he rides two buses to get to school and wants to see bus passes drop to \$10.

The board plans to vote on a fare proposal by August.

Mike Adamick covers transportation. Reach him at 925-945-4745 or madamick@oetimes.com.

Priorities

FROM PAGE A1

Continued restoration and improvements of Baxter Creek.

The city will take in and spend about \$34.9 million next year for its day-to-day operations, according to a May 16 city report.

The city has an additional \$28.2 million that it's prohibited from spending either legally or because the council has appropriated it for other needs, such as a new civic center.

The city plans to spend \$27.8 million on infrastructure over the next five years, including \$10.9 million on a new civic center and

\$5.1 million on a new library.

"We're identifying things we'd like to do, but we haven't identified the money," said City Manager Scott Hanin. "We don't know where the money is going to come from."

The city also has an additional \$3.6 million it can use for anything. It is spending \$1.5 million more than it did last year on increases in health care costs, insurance and pensions for its employees. Some 76 percent of city expenses are related to salaries and benefits.

Next year's budget includes 5.8 new city positions at a total cost of \$96,379. At least two of the positions, including a full-

time code enforcement officer, will raise additional revenue for the city through fines and fees, offsetting some of the new costs of salaries and benefits, Hanin said.

The council, which met Monday has until June 30 to approve the budget. The city's financial advisory board will discuss the budget at its Tuesday meeting. The financial board will meet in conference room A at City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave., at 7 p.m.

The budget is available for viewing on the city's Web site at www.el-cerrito.org, at City Hall and at the El Cerrito library.

"I think it looks good, we're going in the right direction,"

Councilwoman Letitia Moore said of the budget.

During open comment before the budget discussion, about 10 residents spoke out against an effort to place 128 units of housing on the southeast side of El Cerrito Plaza.

Several residents asked the council to prevent the city's planning commission from considering waiving zoning restrictions

for the project before the city completes a new environmental impact report.

"We feel like it's really out of scale and will cause a lot of negative impacts," said Charles Burrell, the co-chair of the Behrens Neighborhood Association.

The planning commission is not yet scheduled to consider the project, said Jennifer Carman, the city's planning manager.

CELEBRATION BY THE NUMBERS

High School "Before the Wall Hits the Wall" week- celebration by the numbers:

number of people participated in the parade:

number of people attended Saturday's outdoor and opening ceremonies:

number of people attended Saturday night's dance: Between 800 and

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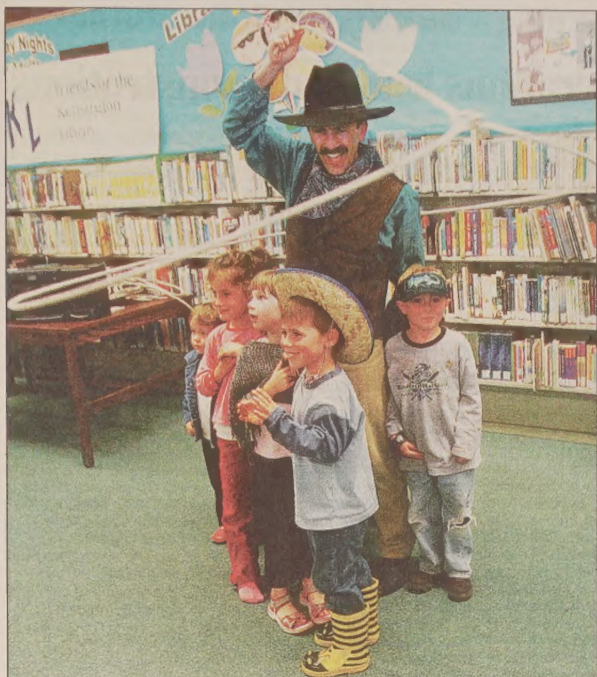
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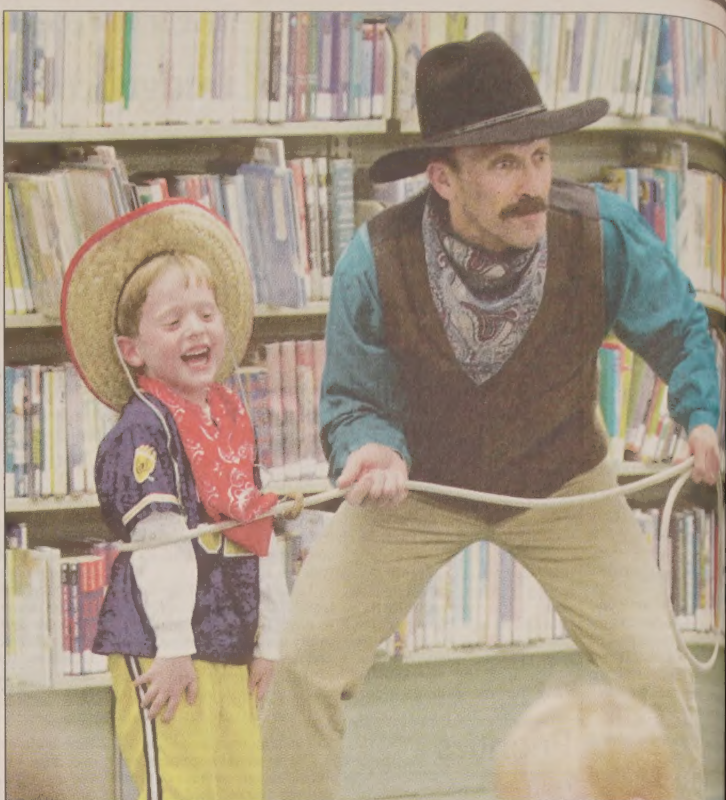
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Roundup time

LARRY KLUGER, known in some parts as Lariat Larry, shows 10 children (above) how he spins his lariat at the Trick Rope and Cowboy Story Show on Tuesday at the Kensington Library. At right, he lassos Jonah Medal-Katz with his rope.



Fun

FROM PAGE A1

The event will also include a silent auction. The items up for auction will include a new Civic sedan from Honda of El Cerrito, a \$550 wool area rug from Abbey Carpet, a \$500 paint job from Miracle Auto Painting, and a \$450 framed print from the Glenn.

The event, co-sponsored by the chamber and city, will be held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the El Cerrito community center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Admission is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children.

A Taste of Albany, now in its fourth year, will showcase 18 Albany restaurants, 12 bands and 22 artists, said James Carter, the director of the Albany Chamber of Commerce. The event will be held June 5, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. For \$20, residents can sample from 18 of Albany's restaurants, including Fonda, the Albany Bistro, Ruen Pair, the Solano Grill and Bar, the Albany Bistro, and Walker's Pie Shop.

Cable-car shuttles will trans-

UPCOMING EVENTS

■ **A Taste of El Cerrito** will be held Sunday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Admission is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. Call 510-233-7040 for more information.

■ **The first Albany Spring Arts and Music Festival** will be held Sunday from noon to 10 p.m. at Memorial Park and the Albany High School Little Theater. The event is free. For more information, call 510-524-9283.

■ **The Solano Avenue Association** will hold its annual **Chocolate and Chalk Art Festival** on May 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Berkeley and Albany. For more information, call 510-527-5358.

■ **A Taste of Albany** will be held June 5, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. The cost is \$20. For more information, call 510-525-1771.

port people to the restaurants on Solano and San Pablo avenues. Live musicians, jugglers, magicians and lion dancers will pro-



VOCALISTS ACCOMPANYING Rhythm Bound, a band consisting of Albany High students, included Kaiya Batsel-Alfresco, 18, and Madeleine Miller-Bottomo, 14, in a May 17 show at Ashkenaz in Berkeley. The band will perform at this Sunday's Albany Spring Arts Festival.

vide the entertainment. Children can play at an area set up for them on the 1200 block of Solano Avenue.

Tickets, which can also be used for various discounts at Albany businesses, are \$20 in advance and \$25 the day of the event. The chamber will donate

20 percent of the profits to the Oakland Center for the Blind and victims of the South Asian tsunami.

The Solano Avenue Association will hold its 10th annual Chocolate and Chalk Art Festival on May 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., a week before the Taste of

SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Schedule of events for the Albany Spring Arts and Music Festival At the Albany High School Little Theater:

- 12:45 p.m.: Open mic poetry
- 2 p.m.: Belly and West African dance
- 3:15 p.m.: Albany High School theater ensemble
- 4:30 p.m.: Vivace, Albany High School's choral club
- 5:45 p.m.: East Bay Improv
- 1:15 p.m.: Albany High School's soul and rhythm and blues group

Rhythm Bound

- 2:30 p.m.: Albany jazz band
- 3:45 p.m.: Vocal jazz group Alma
- 5 p.m.: Latin music group Potingue
- 6:15 p.m.: Albany High Jazz Quartet
- 7:30 p.m.: Rock group Funky Nixons with City Club Robert Lieber
- 8:15 p.m.: An outdoor show of Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

Local artists will display their work on the Albany High School stage from noon to 6 p.m. Organized by the Albany Chamber of Commerce, the event is free. For more information, call 510-524-9283.

art using chalk on the walls of Solano Avenue.

"By the end of the day, the walls will be covered in chalk art everywhere," said Lisa Bullwinkel, the director of the Solano Avenue Association.

And residents are invited to join artists of all abilities to draw art using chalk on the walls of Solano Avenue.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-3578 or by e-mail at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Reconsider

FROM PAGE A1

ings; bring the police and fire buildings up to federal standards for disabled people; expand the police station locker rooms; build new quarters for women firefighters in the fire station; and bring an emergency operations center to City Hall.

Mayor Robert Good voted against the contract with the architects, because he feared the loss of parking and landscaping if City Hall expanded on the ground floor.

"If we don't have the money," said Good, "we shouldn't do it."

He and Councilman Robert Lieber say the city should consider bringing some City Hall functions, such as the City Council chambers, to the Veteran's Memorial building at Memorial Park. The city is considering buying that building from the county for \$1.

At the same meeting, the council allocated \$25,000 in Measure F money to see how much it would cost to make the Veterans building useable for city programs. The 13,600-square-foot building has six rooms ranging from 370 square feet to 1,200 square feet. Provided that veterans groups agree to it, the city could use the building for recreational activities, meetings, and

events both public and private, according to a city report.

Finally, the council agreed to allocate \$250,000 in measure F money for street repair and resurfacing.

It authorized the city administrator to recruit a contractor to complete a \$120,000 slurry seal treatment for portions of 14 streets. The city will spend an additional \$100,000 for pothole re-

pairs and \$30,000 for design and inspection costs.

The portions of streets the city intends to resurface are Cerrito, Neilson, Filmore and Adams streets; Washington, Masonic, Stannage, Santa Fe, Portland, Peralta, Sonoma, Posen and Talbot avenues; and West Place.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com.

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Home closing an art, not a science

How long does it take to close a sale?

FRANK NEWS

In terms of a home purchase, the date the sale is negotiable. Sellers want a quick close, particularly if they've bought another home, even if the buyer and seller agree to close as soon as possible, logistical constraints limit on how fast a close can occur.

However, if you need a mortgage to complete the purchase, it can take 30 days to process the loan. How- ever, if you're preapproved for a mortgage, you might be able to close as quickly as two weeks after your offer is accepted. Buyers have the ability to back out of a home. They have the right to back out of a home. In this case, you can back out of a home as soon as you've approved the purchase.

The "due diligence" inspection includes a complete review of the title record to the property in addition to physical inspection of the property.

As a buyer, there are advantages to being able to offer a quick closing, particularly if you are in a multiple offer competition. With several offers to choose from, sellers often go with the one with the highest price, the quickest close and the least number of contingencies.

From the seller's standpoint, the appeal of a quick close is that you don't have to wait long to turn your equity into cash. Longer closings can be problematic. The buyer could lose his job, or be transferred unexpectedly. Or a seemingly happy couple could decide to separate. There's nothing like the security of a done deal with money in the bank.

Recently a seller negotiated a long closing to give herself enough time to pack and move. Two months into the transaction, and after all contingencies were removed, the buyer backed out and bought another house. In this case, the buyer had initially wanted to close quickly; it was the seller's choice to delay the closing.

HOUSE HUNTING TIP: Some sellers shy away from closing quickly because they feel rushed.



DIAN HYMER
House Hunting

Even if the buyer and seller were to agree to close as quickly as possible, logistical constraints may limit on how fast a closing can occur.

But, you don't necessarily need to move out of your home at closing. Like the closing date, the date you deliver possession of the property to the buyer is also negotiable.

It's possible to buy time and avoid a long closing by negotiating

See HYMER, Page B2

Raising underway for stricken account rep

BETTER HOMES REALTY

A fund-raising effort in the Oakland area seeks to help Greg Shoemaker, an account representative at Old Republic Title. Shoemaker has been diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) or Lou Gehrig's Disease, a disease that results in death between two and five years of diagnosis.

Many companies are joining in the effort to build up a fund that will help Shoemaker and his family. Donations are being encouraged to the Gregory Shoemaker ALS Fund, at CalPines Bank, 1998 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611.

Better Homes Realty is also accepting donations. Send to the company or call Michael Thompson at 339-5775.

For more information on the disease, visit www.alsa.org.

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Real Estate Spotlight

Three-bridge view in Upper Rockridge



This spacious four bedroom three and one-half bath home, located at 6050 Contra Costa Road in Oakland's Upper Rockridge, was lovingly and painstakingly rebuilt in 1993 after the Oakland Hills firestorm. The design of the home makes it conducive to indoor/outdoor living with many decks that take advantage of stunning San Francisco Bay views from the front and of the hills from the rear. Large windows and multiple skylights flood the house with light.

In the rebuild, the open flow floor plan was designed to suit both casual entertaining and easy living. The formal living room with fireplace and dining room are spacious. These two rooms are set on each side of the grand two-story entrance foyer with marble flooring. The kitchen with upscale appliances opens to both an adjacent informal eating area, and a family room with media center and wet bar. From the family room there is a large rear deck and hot tub with views of Lake Temescal. The first level also includes a powder room, a bedroom, a full bath and laundry room. Up the gracious stairway to the second level, the private master bedroom is a romantic retreat complete with a plus room, deck with bay views and bath with marble floor and granite counter. Two additional bedrooms; one with deck and exceptional bay views, and one bath are on this second level. Unfinished two and one-half rooms with a bath in the basement have potential as an au pair or guest suite.

Price: \$1,549,000. Open Sunday, May 22, 2-4:30 p.m.

Listing agent: Dee Knowland, Pacific Union, 510-814-8148 or deeknowland@realty.com.

MONTCLAIR



10.339.8400

10.339.4000

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Open Homes

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
ADAMS POINT \$825,000
379 STATEN AVENUE
Brown shingle Craftsman Duplex. Lots of original details, very spacious, sunny private yard, big basement + lots more.
Arnold Mueller 339-4000



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-5:00 P.M.
ADAMS POINT \$775,000
2712, 2714 & 2716 HARRISON STREET
1920's triplex with charm and character. There is a spacious and sunny 3 bd/1 bath upstairs unit and two smaller units (2 bd/1 bath and 1 bd/1 bath). This is a great opportunity for an owner occupant who wants rental income.
www.HarrisonTriplex.com
Michael Thompson 339.8400

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
MONTCLAIR \$775,000
6666 SOBRANTE ROAD
Peaceful Oasis combines space and value. 4bd/2.5ba, garden, patio and terrace. Top elementary school! Don't miss it!
M.J. McConville 339-8400-339-4280

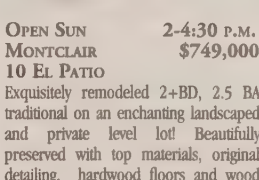


OPEN SUN 12-5:00 P.M.
OAKLAND \$750,000
7333 SUNKIST DRIVE
Fabulous duplex in a secluded neighborhood with panoramic views. 2 bedrooms 1 bath each unit, recently updated, huge 7175 sq ft lot, 2-car garage.
Ken Nwokedi 339.4000-899.6333

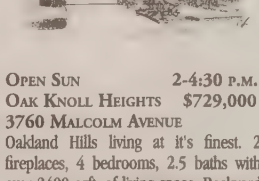


Open Homes

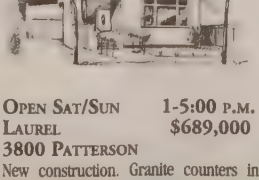
OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
MONTCLAIR \$749,000
10 EL PATIO
Exquisitely remodeled 2+BD, 2.5 BA traditional on an enchanting landscaped and private level lot! Beautifully preserved with top materials, original detailing, hardwood floors and wood beamed ceilings. Sun room/office plus space, updated kitchen and baths!
Nahid Nassiri 339.8400-339.4550



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
OAK KNOLL HEIGHTS \$729,000
3760 MALCOLM AVENUE
Oakland Hills living at it's finest. 2 fireplaces, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with over 2400 sqft. of living space. Backyard designed for entertaining. Move in Ready!
Lisa Hardy 339.4000-812.6699



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
OAKLAND \$519,000
3767 LUNDHOLM AVENUE
Charming duplex. Live in one, rent the other. Each with hardwood floors, updated kitchen and bath. Great location near Mills & 580. Won't Last!
Rosie Nysaether 339.8400-339.4567



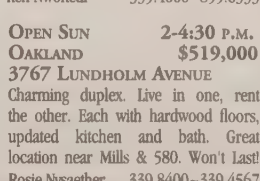
OPEN SAT/SUN 1-5:00 P.M.
LAUREL \$689,000
3800 PATTERSON
New construction. Granite counters in kitchen & baths. SS Appliances, jacuzzi bath in MBR, yard, 2-car garage. Easy access to public trans & shopping.
Antoinette Radwan 339.8400-899.6331



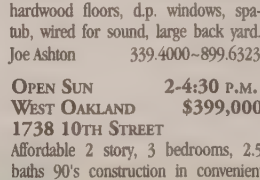
OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
OAKMORE (LOWER) \$659,000
2032 CLEMENS ROAD
Peek-A-Boo view from this 1940 home with just a touch of Deco charm! Two sunny bedrooms deep level yard, rumpus room with fireplace and separate home office. See photos at: PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400-482.9000



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
OAKLAND \$549,000
3711 FIELD STREET
3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths nestled in a serene tree-filled setting with mountain views. HDWD FLRS, Liv Rm w/Frplc, FDR, Eat-in-Kitch with SS Appliances, granite counters, maple cabs & slate flrs. Spacious bdms w/berber. Updated baths w/marble. 2-car garage, 1440 sq ft, 5626 sqft lot.
Ken Nwokedi 339.4000-899.6333



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
OAKLAND \$449,000
887 52ND STREET
Sweet updated 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath bungalow on Oakland- Emeryville border. Large kitchen, sunroom, unfinished attic, flexible floorplan, hardwood floors, d.p. windows, spantub, wired for sound, large back yard.
Joe Ashton 339.4000-899.6323



OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.
WEST OAKLAND \$399,000
1738 10TH STREET
Affordable 2 story, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths 90's construction in convenient West Oakland developing area. Close to downtown Oakland, Jack London Sq and convenient commute to S.F.
Rosemary Greene 339.8400-899.6305



OPEN SUN 2-4:30

OAKLAND \$270,000

567 OAKLAND AVE #313

Situated on Oakland Ave. a few blocks above MacArthur Blvd; this one bedroom, one bath condo boasts gated parking and a large sunny deck. Convenient freeway access makes for an easy commute to SF!
Harold McGhee 339.8400

By Appointment

PIEDMONT PINES \$739,000

3+ BD, 2 BA Contemporary in Tahoe setting with stone tile floors, vaulted ceilings, and a spectacular open floor plan. Great room with fireplace and wet bar, office plus room, and canyon views. Updated kitchen and bathrooms!
Nahid Nassiri 339.8400-339.4550

SAN LEANDRO \$589,000

Stylish split-level 1920 3/2 craftsman on generous sized lot. Bonus office/room, refinished floors, updated kitchen and 2-baths. Very Nice!
Earle Shenk 339.4000-220.6407

OAK KNOLL \$589,000

2 bedrooms, 2 baths split level. Hardwood floors, fireplace, 2-car garage, canyon views, huge backyard/variety of fruit trees. Approx 8550 sqft lot.
Ken Nwokedi 339.4000-899.6333

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Sophisticated executive office for lease. Class A Building. Walking distance to Piedmont- two full floors available. 700-6800 sq ft. Panoramic View of S.F. Truly one of a kind!
Mark Attarha 339.6300

OAKLAND \$625,000

5214 EAST 12TH ST
Excellent live/work warehouse. 3 offices/bedrooms, mezzanine/ common area. Full kitchen & bath, new roof, alarm system & 15 foot roll up door. 3100 sqft. Zoned M-30.
Ken Nwokedi 899.6333

www.MontclairBetterHomes.com

They're tops at Grand Lake



PRUDENTIAL CALIFORNIA REALTY recently recognized its top-producing agents throughout its three-state 129-office network. Agents tapped for awards from the company's Grand Lake office were from left to right: John Bell, Ernest Villafraña, Dolores Thom, Richard Matus, Jackie Care, and C.P. Yang. "The key to a high production is great service," says Amberson "Mac" McCulloch, the Grand Lake office manager. "These agents offer the best in friendly, professional service". They can be reached at 510-834-2010.

Small business owners have unique estate planning needs

Small business owners have many financial needs that may be different or more complex than average investor's. As a small business owner you may have special estate planning needs that should be considered when putting together your comprehensive estate plan. Some issues may be difficult to think about, but you may have some business, family and estate tax issues you should address. Here are some of the considerations to keep in mind.

Operational efficiencies. Every business is different — some owners are indispensable while others have businesses that could run pretty well without them. Regardless of the situation, it is vital to de-

velop a plan to address these issues should they occur. You should also consider how your disability or death would affect the business and who would make key decisions in your absence.

Cash flow. If you were unable to run your business, it is important to consider what that would do to your business's profitability and value. If your cash flow would be affected, consider the role of key person life insurance or disability overhead insurance in your overall estate plan. These types of insurance will help ease the cash flows issues that may arise.

Ownership. If your business has multiple owners, you may also want

to think about what the effects of losing one of the owners would be. You should have an up to date buy-sell agreement for each owner funded with life insurance as well as a spelled out plan of what course of action would be taken should an owner die or become incapacitated.

Income for spouse. If one or more of the business owners are married, would his or her spouse prefer to inherit the business or the value of the business? There are many different ways to structure your estate plan and your life insurance coverage depending on what you want to accomplish. You should also discuss what involvement your spouse would have in the business, if any, should something happen to you.

Dividing assets. You may have some of your children involved in the business and others who are not. Some parents choose to make unequal distributions of assets in recognition of a child's contributions to the business. Other parents prefer an equal distribution of assets and families can create a plan that allows the children involved with the business to buy out the others. Because every business is unique, there is no single solution that works best, but it is crucial to have these decisions made early.

Federal estate tax. Under cur-



LEILA GOUGH
Money Matters

rent law, every individual can leave up to \$1.5 million in assets to beneficiaries without incurring federal estate tax. A married couple can avoid tax on up to \$3 million, but only if they plan properly. The maximum estate tax rate has been reduced to its current level of 47 percent and it will continue to go down until it reaches 45 percent in 2007.

State estate tax. Many states also impose estate taxes and these can be substantial. Even if federal estate taxes are repealed, state taxes may still be due so plan accordingly.

As you can see, developing a comprehensive estate plan is important for the benefit of your family and your business. Your financial consultant, along with your accountant and lawyer, can certainly help you create a plan to address any potential future situations.

Leila Gough is an Associate Vice President with A. G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. She can be reached at 510-452-8060.

Hymer

FROM PAGE B1

a rent back after closing. This allows you to rent back the home you've just sold for a period of time after the closing. The rental fee is negotiable, but it is often equal to the buyer's carrying costs (principle, interest, taxes and insurance) prorated on a per diem basis.

This rent often exceeds the amount you were paying to own your home. However, the point of the rent back is not to save you money. It's to give you the security of knowing your sale has gone through.

You will have the proceeds from the sale, which can start earning money invested elsewhere. And, you will be relieved of your home

ownership expenses. These factors partially offset the cost of renting back.

Buyers who need to sell one home in order to buy another can make good use of a sale and rent back arrangement.

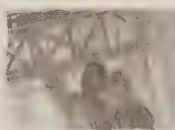
If you're trying to buy in a tight market where contingent sale offers aren't a viable option, a quick close with a rent back on the home you're selling might eliminate the need for an interim move elsewhere.

THE CLOSING: Some lenders have limitations on how long sellers can rent back after closing. The buyers should check with their lender or mortgage broker before finalizing the negotiations.

Dian Hymer can be reached at 510-339-4777 or by e-mail at Dian@Dianhymer.com.

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3 New Listings



3942 Belmi Grove, Richmond
#129 - You can't beat this Country Club Vista waterfront community for location. Combining the warmth and charm with all of the modern convenience. Close to shopping and freeway access.

\$682,700



640 Carlotta Cir, Pinole
#155 - Premium lot, 4BD/2.5BA with spacious kitchen. Tile entry, family room w/ fireplace & door to patio. Custom blinds. Central heat & air. Professionally landscaped. Water view.

\$865,000



TRIPLEX
#140 - All 2 bedroom/1 bath legal units. Upper unit has a large living and dining area with an extra 1/4 bath. Property is located on a corner lot with entrances on both streets. Backyard with multiple fruit trees.

\$349,950

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Red Oak's 'ROOF' honored as Distinguished Business Partner

RED OAK REALTY

Red Oak Realty's charitable foundation, Red Oak Opportunity Foundation — ROOF — was presented with the Distinguished Business Partner award for 2005 by the Berkeley Public Education Foundation at its annual Spring Luncheon at Hs Lordships restaurant on May 6.

Previous year's recipients of the award include Citibank, Washington Mutual, Semifred's, Wells Fargo, Cody's books, Mechanics Bank and Alta Bates.

The award was given in recognition of ROOF's contributions to the Public Education Foundation and other public education causes over the years.

Since its founding 20 years ago, ROOF has contributed more than \$400,000 to education, housing and other programs that meet urgent local community needs.

"ROOF puts the health of our community front and center for us in a personal way," said Peter Campbell, chairman of ROOF. "We want to give back to the communities where we work and live. Our clients drive it home every day with their deep concern about the quality of our public schools and the programs available to kids, our senior citizens and the homeless."

The award was presented by Carolyn Henry Golpin, president of the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce, and received on behalf of all contributors to ROOF by Bob Blumberg, Red Oak Realty partner and vice chair of ROOF. "Those dedicated people who work with our kids day after day to improve public education deserve our support," said Blumberg, a former Berkeley High teacher. "We want them to know that there are those in the business community who recognize and appreciate their efforts. We are pleased to do what we can to help."

In 1985, Red Oak's owners established ROOF as a non-profit charity, and encouraged their agents to contribute a portion of

their commissions at the home sale. The company's contribution committee selects organizations annually. Over the years, grants have been awarded for programs, one-to-one education, and the services located to organizations from Gardens on Wheels Berkeley Symphony. In recent years, Red Oak colleagues, and business have been inspired to contribute as well, enabling grants to exceed \$70,000. Previous awards include contributions to the Berkeley Education Institute and Berkeley former Mayor Dean's declaration of Red Oak Week in January 2005.

Peter Campbell, chairman

For information about making a tax-deductible contribution or to apply for a ROOF grant, visit www.RedOakRealty.com.

Keeping tabs on Bay Area home prices? Don't miss the Weekly Sales starting on B10.

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1122 Besito Avenue, Berkeley
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Spectacular modern design breathtaking Bay views and artful architectural details. 3 bedrooms, two and one half baths, wood fireplaces, two-car attached garage, magnificent deck! A rare work of art with ultra privacy. Offered at \$1,625,000

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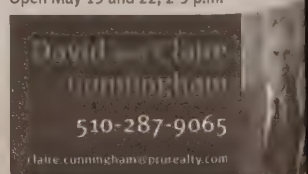


Glamorous Contemporary

- Mid century one level living space
- Picture windows open to a beautifully landscaped patio
- Five Bedrooms/Six Baths
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- Abundant built in storage
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David L. Cunniff

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On the San Leandro Boarder
in the wonderful new community of Durant Square. This beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home was built in 2003, with over 1600 square feet of living space and a large 2 car garage. The Durant Square Community is impeccably maintained, with a private club house and lovely park.

Offered at \$575,000
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New Listing
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Open Sunday 2-4:30

A remodeled Elmwood Craftsman located on a quiet, charming street above College Avenue, perfect for walking to shops and restaurants!

- Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths • Foyer entry • Eat-in kitchen with garden breakfast nook • Vintage details • Two fireplaces
- Master bedroom suite • Detached office • Attic storage room with picture windows • New foundation/systems

CAROL JEKABSON
VMAIL 510.273.9322 Email JEKAB@SBCCLOCAL.NET

Exploring something new (to us): Laptop computers

Plus — people do it all the time, Aaron says — you can take that laptop on airplanes, on vacations to the beach, to anywhere in the world, and use it for all these same things, and much more. There is no need any longer to carry an address book or a tablet of notepaper. Contacts are recorded in your computer and any notes you want to make are typed in, too.

Or — and this did stretch my mind — you can make notes with pen on paper the old-fashioned way, then later scan the notes onto your computer. No need to go back to the office to get notes filed in a file folder. No need for a file, or paper, at all.

When Aaron told us this, I immediately got an image of our sale files. They are very thick and only 6 to 8 of them completely fill up one file drawer. Those files could all be scanned and the paper shredded and thrown away.

Doctors are doing it, scanning medical records onto computers. Banks, of course, are doing it. No one has to save old checks anymore.

What a wonderland. I began to realize that this is what must be meant as virtual. We won't have actual written records, but instead, they'll be virtual. Which reminds me that I read in the newspaper the other day that reading and writing are doomed. A Berkeley English instructor and professional trend spotter, William Crossman, is predicting that by 2050, the written word will become a curiosity of the past.

Everyone will be using talking computers. Crossman says that written text is only one stage in the evolution of technology. The next will be the perfection of computers that can be talked to. Learning to read and write will no longer be necessary because computers will voice back the information we need.

No books? The pleasure of holding and reading a book, or following a recipe in a cookbook, gone? Crossman says people wouldn't have to give up literacy if they didn't want to. It could be pursued as a hobby, like quilting.

I told my 20-year-old daughter Annie about the idea of no paper and no books. She said, "It's gonna be awfully noisy."

Things are changing. Why, people don't even cook anymore, more's the pity. They buy for dinner still-warm roasted chicken, or pot roast and gravy, plus already-mashed potatoes. I just don't know



TARPOFF AND TALBERT
True Experiences



TAKING A BREATHER: Members of Coldwell Banker's Oakland-Piedmont office recently participated in the East Bay Habitat for Humanity project. Pictured from left to right are Oakland Piedmont sales associates Ellen Lancaster, Catherine "CJ" Boydston, Monica Zuck, Julie Joyce, Leslie Wei and Gregory Wei.

Habitat for Humanity, Coldwell Banker team up to help East Bay families realize their dreams

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Coldwell Banker recently announced that seven members of its Oakland-Piedmont office participated in the East Bay Habitat for Humanity project on Wednesday, May 11 in West Oakland.

The East Bay Habitat for Humanity has a 12-home project on the corner of 10th and Union streets in West Oakland. Coldwell Banker volunteers spent their eight-hour workday on four homes of Phase III of the project. Their duties included working on the siding and framing on the homes.

Sales associate Monica Zuck was among the volunteers who participated in the project. "It's such a great feeling knowing that our hard work is going to benefit a family in our community," she said. "As real estate professionals, our goal is to give back to the community in any way we can. I can't think of a better thing to give than the gift of a new home."

Coldwell Banker is the only national real estate firm to embrace Habitat for Humanity as its official corporate charity. The company has funded and built numerous Habitat for Humanity homes since the beginning of its affiliation with the non-profit organization in 1993.

In Northern California alone, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage has raised more than \$800,000 for local Habitat for Humanity chapters including the East

EAST BAY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Founded in 1988, East Bay Habitat for Humanity was formed as an independent affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. East Bay Habitat for Humanity addresses the critical need for affordable housing by providing homeownership opportunities for Bay Area families in need, serving low and very-low income families in Alameda and West Contra Costa counties. To date, East Bay Habitat for Humanity has completed the construction of 74 single-family homes in Alameda and West Contra Costa counties. The organization has funded the construction of more than 100 additional homes overseas. Habitat for Humanity currently has 21 homes under construction.

Look around the real estate community

and information for and the real estate community. The PUBLIC

RE/Max presents "from architecture to real estate" series, the Alameda provides slide lectures narrated by area authors. The next "What of Paris During the 1800s" is 7 p.m., Thursday, May 19. Author and art historian Anzella Jones of First Security Loan present the class. To learn more contact Fleming at 866-565-0432.

■ **Maintenance:** Get the answers to maintaining your home. Attend the "Homeowner's Home Maintenance" workshop in Alameda, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, May 21. The Alameda Development Corporation discusses your home's structure, systems and how to protect your investment. Learn more at 510-749-5821.

■ **First-Timers:** Loan consultant George Johnson of GB Johnson Financial Services, offers a free first time buyer informational workshop. Featured topics are zero percent down payment, FHA and conventional loans. Johnson will offer facts affordable properties. For information on future workshops contact Johnson at www.gbjohnson.com.

■ **MCC:** Attention Mortgage Credit Certificate Holders. MCC Holders are now able to refinance and keep their MCC. They also may be able to remove PMI payments. Refinancing may not be for every-



BOBBIE REID
Credit Worthy

one. An agent can answer questions and concerns at 800-799-3377.

CREAA CELEBRATES

The Chinese Real Estate Association of America is celebrating an anniversary. CREAA members have given 27 years of service to their communities. To learn more about the group, log on www.ChineseRealEstateAA.org.

MIXING

It's an ARPB Mixer, 6 p.m., Friday, May 20, at Maxwell's, in Oakland. Join local Realtists for an evening of fun and networking. Learn about the upcoming Associated Real Property Brokers scholarship gala and workshops. Appetizers and beverages are included. The sponsor is Transcontinental Mortgage.

See REID, Page B4

The GRUBB Co.
ALAMEDA

3075 Bateman Street, Berkeley

- The Bateman Park neighborhood of Elmwood, a Berkeley favorite
- The Brown Shingle cottage appeal, an architectural favorite
- The perfect floorplan (with a master suite and great eat-in kitchen), a universal favorite.

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The GRUBB Co.
ALAMEDA

190 Sandringham Road, Piedmont

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 High-end renovations are evident throughout this spacious four bedrooms home with separate in-law/au-pair suite! Beautiful outlook! Amenities galore!

New Price! \$1,995,000

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Claremont Hills

160 Alvarado Road

For more info, call ...

Julie Nachtwey
www.julienachtwey.com
510.540.8743

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GMAC Real Estate

5 Talbot Avenue, Albany

Designed and built by Levitch Design and Architects

Brand New from the foundation to the second story. This fine 1927 bungalow is now a custom masterpiece

Three plus bedrooms and two baths, Chef's kitchen with finest designer finishes, stone fireplace. Stunning gated fully landscaped yard. Short walk to Solano Avenue

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Phone: 510.644.5262

The GRUBB Co.
ALAMEDA

190 Sandringham Road, Piedmont

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 High-end renovations are evident throughout this spacious four bedrooms home with separate in-law/au-pair suite! Beautiful outlook! Amenities galore!

New Price! \$1,995,000

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Real Estate Focus:

Claremont Pines jewel graces Oakland hills



Located in Oakland's desirable Claremont Pines neighborhood, the lovely English-style home at 110 Beechwood Drive was reconstructed in 1995 from the original plans with current upgrades. Surrounded by magnificent gardens, this inviting home is filled with marvelous architectural details. French doors open to delightful patios. There are stunning leaded windows and hardwood floors. There are five bedrooms, five and one-half baths, a cozy library with fireplace, a lower level rumpus/family room plus a separate workout room and separate office. A wisteria-covered trellis over the rear patio creates an inviting gathering place for outdoor entertaining as does the front terrace with a bubbling fountain off the living room.

Price: \$2,100,000.

Listing agent: Elizabeth Dickson, The Grubb Co., 510-339-0400, ext. 218.

Make your home remodel a success

WINANS CONSTRUCTION

If you or someone you know is considering a professional remodeling project in your home, the free seminar, Your Remodel: How To Make It A Success, should be your first stop. This two-and-one-half-hour seminar shows you how to maximize the value of your project and minimize frustration. The seminar will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m., Thursday, May 26, at the Orinda Library, 24 Orinda Way in Orinda.

Paul Winans of Winans Construction, Inc. will cover such topics as pre-design and zoning, understanding the design process, tips for setting a realistic budget, choosing and working with a professional contractor and specific steps you can take to ensure that your project is successful.

Winans Construction is a 27-year old firm specializing in major residential remodeling projects in the East Bay and surrounding areas. The company has received numerous local and national awards including the highest recognition for quality achievement in the remodeling industry, National Remodeling Quality Gold Award.

Co-owners Paul and Nina Winans are both National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) Certified Remodelers. Paul — NARI's 2005-2006 national president — has given many seminars to homeowners over the past several years and writes the From the Ground Up column on remodeling for Hills Newspapers. Call 510-653-7288 to pre-register. Log onto winconinc.com for more information.

Reid

FROM PAGE B3

OAR RENEWAL

Renew your real estate license at the Oakland Association of Realtors. Attend and earn all 45 DRE credit hours at once. The seminar includes Agency, Ethics, Trust Funds and Fair Housing. The instructor will review materials live. The seminar is 1 to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 24 at the OAR Auditorium. For tuition and parking information call Mayra at 510-836-3000.

LUNCH BUNCH

Monthly lunch and learn sessions are a tradition at the Berkeley Association of Realtors. Attend at the BAR Auditorium, 12:15 p.m., Wednesday, May 25. BAR presents a speaker on a topic of current interest. To join the Lunch Bunch call the BAR office at 510-848-4288.

ENTREES

Call for entrees. Realtor Magazine reminds the entry deadline for the 2005 Good Neighbor Awards is Friday, May 27. Five winners will be announced in the publication and honored at the NAR Realtors Conference & Expo. This year's event is in San Francisco, October 28-31. Nomination forms are available by calling 800-874-6500.

REALTORS

■ On May 23 AAR hosts the 2005 Region 5 and 6 "Visit With The President." CAR President Jim Hamilton will meet and greet attendees at a Leadership Luncheon and an afternoon reception. Questions? Call 510-523-7229.

■ It's Leg Day, Wednesday, June 8 is Legislative Day in Sacramento. Meet with state legislators. Hear

about upcoming laws that change the way you do business. Learn CAR positions that you and your clients. Associations are offering bus trips. Some trips include education and information contact your local association of Realtors.

See REID page B3

Dream

FROM PAGE B3

Bay, the Peninsula San Francisco and Silicon Valley The company has participated in the construction of 29 projects over the last 12 years.

Most recently, the company raised more than \$300,000 for Habitat for Humanity chapters through a community wide fundraiser in which agents, managers, staff and clients purchased \$2 raffle tickets. All monies have been donated towards constructions builds in 2005. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage donated more \$30,000 to East Bay Habitat for Humanity builds earlier this year, \$6,400 of which was raised by the Oakland Piedmont office.

Founded in 1988, East Bay Habitat for Humanity was formed as an independent affiliate of Habi-

tat for Humanity International. Bay Habitat for Humanity is the critical need for affordable housing by providing home ownership opportunities for Bay Area in need, serving low and income families in Alameda, West Contra Costa County, East Bay Habitat for Humanity has completed the construction of 74 single-family homes under construction in Alameda County and Contra Costa County, and the construction of more than 100 additional Habitat homes overseas. They currently have homes under construction in Alameda County.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage will once again be sponsoring its annual Habitat for Humanity fundraiser in July. The company's sales associates will sell raffle tickets to benefit local Habitat for Humanity chapters. For information, please call 510-

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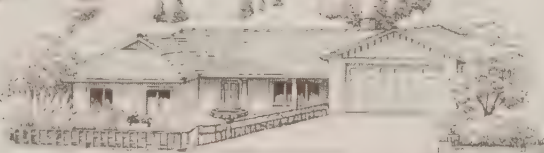
Recently sold with multiple offers - Originally offered at \$879,000
Four bedrooms, three baths



JUDITH CAIN
339.0400/209
cain@grubbco.com
Represented the Seller

MARY MERRICK
339.0400/315
mmerrick@grubbco.com
Represented the Buyer

The GRUBB Co.



6757 Harbord Drive, Oakland

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This stylishly remodeled four bedroom home was designed for indoor-outdoor living. Hardwood floors throughout and a gated pool below.

Offered at \$995,000



MICHELLE WINCHESTER
339.0400/203
mwinchester@grubbco.com
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The GRUBB Co.

CRUISE • SAIL • TRIP



4187 Randolph Avenue, Glenview

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This wonderful Craftsman, tucked into one of Glenview's most desirable tree-lined streets, is close to restaurants, shopping and transportation. Spacious and sunny, this home features designer colors, beautiful hardwood floors. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, formal living room with fireplace, formal dining room with built-ins, updated eat-in kitchen, a separate laundry room, and a storage. Surrounding the home is updated landscaping with park-like garden.

Offered at \$759,000



ANNE FESTE
339.0400/371
afeste@grubbco.com
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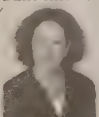
The GRUBB Co.



72 The Plaza Drive, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This charming one-story brown shingle home is located in the desirable Claremont neighborhood of Berkeley. Three + bedrooms, two and one half baths. Sunny office opens level-out to large deck and rear garden. Gracious living room with bay window. Formal dining room with original built-ins. Located just minutes to shops, restaurants and BART.

Offered at \$879,000



KAREN STARR
339.0400/224
starr@grubbco.com
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A sampling of our current listings:



Pine Lake
3 bedroom, 2 bath beauty built in 1940 is close to shopping, transportation, Stern Grove, Lake Merced and the Ocean. Large living room, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen that looks out on the center patio.
\$749,000



Oakland
Craftsman style home currently used as a duplex. 4 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths up; 1 bedroom, 1 bath down. Approx. 2,900 sq. ft. of living space.
\$865,000



Anza Vista
Elegant corner home on a double lot. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths on 2 levels. Eat-in kitchen. 2 fireplaces, refinished inlaid floors. 2 car side-by-side garage. Close to Fillmore shopping, Japantown and walking distance to Golden Gate Park.
\$1,550,000

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Interest rate based on \$359,650 loan amount + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 15 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value ratio of 80%. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$359,650 is approximately \$2,014. Subject to maximum loan-to-value ratio of 80%. Homeowner's insurance required.
Interest rate based on \$500,000 + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value ratio of 80%. Homeowner's insurance required.

GRUBB Co.

1095 Arlington Boulevard, El Cerrito
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Situated behind a private gate and drive that takes you to one of El Cerrito's treasures, is this enchanting New England style residence and the spectacular surrounding gardens. The public rooms have grand proportions, perfect for entertaining. Three bedrooms and three + baths.
Offered at \$1,795,000

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What to expect from an inspector

BY ROBERT J. BRUSS
NMAN NEWS FEATURES

"The Pocket Idiot's Guide To Home Inspections," by Bobbi Dempsey and Mike Kuhn (Alpha-Penguin Group, Indianapolis, Ind.), 2004, \$9.95, 173 pages; Available in stock or by special order at local bookstores, public libraries and online.

Home buyers, sellers, and realty agents who need to understand what is involved in a professional home inspection have, at last, a simple, easy-to-understand guidebook in "The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Home Inspections" by Bobbi Dempsey and Mike Kuhn.

When I picked up this handy-size book, I thought it would be superficial "fluff" about professional home inspections. I was wrong. Instead, this little book is filled with important, profitable and authori-

tative information about professional home inspections.

One of the co-authors, Mike Kuhn, is a professional inspector with 17 years of experience thoroughly inspecting homes. He even owns a HouseMaster home inspection franchise. The other co-author, Bobbi Dempsey, is a professional writer who makes the details easy to understand.

I wish I had learned earlier many of the simple home inspection details explained in this simple but very valuable new book.

Especially profitable reading is the "Finding a Home Inspector" chapter. Amazingly, the book reports 69 percent of home buyers found their inspectors through recommendations from a local real estate agent. Instead, the authors suggest locating a local qualified,

experienced inspector through the www.ashi.com (American Society of Home Inspectors) or the www.nibi.com (National Institute of Building Inspectors).

But the authors alert readers that NIBI requires its members to carry errors and omissions insurance although ASHI does not. State licensing is an extra safeguard, the authors explain.

The book's most humorous section has to be "Sure Signs of a Bad Inspector."

The authors list includes "the inspector completes the entire inspection in less than 10 minutes; the inspector offers to give you a 'good deal' on home repairs; the inspector writes the inspection report in crayon on the back of a pizza box."

Watch out, David Letterman.

BAY AREA PROPERTIES

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**2734 Prince Street
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Spacious Claremont Craftsman!

Fine 1910 Craftsman & Stylized Restoration

- ❖ Original woodwork & hardwood floors
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1615 Harmon Street, Berkeley

RECENTLY SOLD. Historic Victorian duplex with recently renovated one bedroom, one bath cottage on a beautiful level property.
*Originally offered at \$625,000
Sold with multiple offers
Represented the Seller*

DANA COHEN
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REALTORS



86 Pea View Avenue, Piedmont

Offered at \$8,500,000

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Real Estate & Home: THE place to turn for up-to-date East Bay real estate information

Tarpoft

FROM PAGE B3

about a lot of this new fangled stuff, mostly, I guess, because it is new. Can I trust that when I need a canceled check, it will be there? What do they put in the mashed potatoes? I just read a book called Blessings by Anna Quindlen, a book I very much enjoyed. The main character, Lydia Blessing, who is in her eighties, remembers and notes

changes that have occurred over her life. Most of these she wishes had stayed the same. Habits, dress, social graces as she has known and practiced them are largely gone, it seems to Lydia Blessing. She wants the dry goods store in town to again stock the all-cotton white blouses she bought for years, the pharmacy delivery boy to bike over her order. Except for expressing condolences, she seldom finds a reason to send her engraved note cards. Her daughter insists that flavorful

melons are available year round, asparagus best not only in September. The rules have changed. Lydia Blessing asks herself if she has outlived her own life. I came away from our conversation with Aaron about computers with my head spinning, feeling down. Answering machines, email, photocopiers and fax machines are all new during my adulthood. Not to mention text messaging, that rapid-fire keying that teenagers do on their cell phones.

Speaking of which, remember when it looked really strange to see someone walking down the street while taking on a handheld telephone? We will get new computers, probably even a laptop. If there aren't too many problems, if I can understand the instruction manuals, and especially if I don't feel that I need to have a computer with me every minute of every day, I'll be glad. Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoft can be reached at 653-2050 and at www.tarpoftandtalbert.com.



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3824 Park Blvd. - Open Sunday 2-4:30
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Offered at \$595,000



Nancy Novick
485-7254



A Gracious Home - By Appointment
Three plus, plus bedrooms, one plus baths, sunny living room and dining room, breakfast nook, partial Bay view from large attic plus room, two car attached garage, large utility room, and charming yard.
Offered \$698,000



Chris Christensen
485-7242

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25 Wood Court, Oakland

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Exquisite brown shingle on a quiet cul-de-sac in Montclair Village. Level in to an open floor plan with panoramic Bay view, lovely gardens. Two plus bedrooms, two and one half baths. Delightful.
Offered at \$510,000



ELIZABETH DICKSON
339.0400/218
dickson@grubbco.com
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NEW LISTING



5757 Balmoral Drive, Oakland Hills

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A spacious all level home located in the Oakland hills. Recently updated kitchen/family room with granite counter tops and new appliances. Beautiful stone, marble and hardwood flooring compliment this five bedroom, three and one half bath home with formal living and dining room. Rear garden has both a deck and patio with view of the Bay.
Offered at \$895,000



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10 El Patio, Oakland Open Sunday, 2-4:30pm



Exquisitely remodeled and renovated 2+BD/2.5BA 1936 Traditional with large, enchanting, landscaped and private level yard. Beautifully restored with highest quality materials, original detailing, modern amenities, remodeled kitchen and baths, handsome hardwood floors, arches, wood-beamed Ceilings, lots of light and more! Den/office plus space that opens to front yard, and indoor/outdoor fireplace great for entertaining

Asking Price \$749,000
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It's all in the details, and Rose Garden is full of them. This spectacular master-planned community of four distinct single-family home neighborhoods in Brentwood boasts seven neighborhood parks, scenic trails and a nearly four-acre central park that includes a rose garden, gazebo and swim center. Not only are the homes gracious and charming, featuring the latest wiring and high-tech building technologies, but each front yard comes immaculately landscaped with roses. All this, and a location within minutes of Marsh Creek trails, exciting new shops and fine schools. Visit soon and see why everything's coming up roses in Brentwood.

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'Helping the helpers'

■ Free seminar focuses on those in public service

RE/MAX IN MOTION
The "helpers that help others" dedicate their lives to our communities. They are police officers, nurses, firefighters, teachers and other public service employees. But frequently these helpers cannot afford to buy a home in the very cities that they service.

As first-time homebuyers, with salaries in a low to moderate range, they question if homeownership is an attainable goal. But Congress has introduced a new tax credit bill hoping to encourage the building of more affordable housing. Additionally, the FHA is considering a zero down payment loan for qualified borrowers.

An informational, obligation-free seminar, "First Homes: Helping The Helpers" is scheduled 6:30 to 8

This seminar is the best way to answer the real estate questions of the men and women who serve our communities. We will offer sound advice and guidance without pressure. Those considering a purchase should look at the variety of options the state and lenders offer just for them.

Jonathon Fleming

p.m., Thursday, May 26, at the RE/Max Conference Center, Oakland Realtor Jonathon Fleming of RE/Max In Motion and Loan Consultant Anzella Jones of First Security Loan present the free class.

One of Fleming's areas of specialization is real estate education for the first-time buyer. Jones' expertise includes financial products geared for those in the public service sector. He also offers relocation help for those new to the area, with worldwide RE/Max contacts.

"This seminar is the best way to answer the real estate questions of the men and women who serve our communities," he said. "We will offer sound advice and guidance without pressure. Those considering a purchase should look at the variety of options the state and lenders offer just for them."

Gain information targeted to help the helpers as first-time homebuyers. Do you qualify for an assistance program? Must you establish a credit history before buying? What low-down payment or zero down programs are there?

Health care professionals, school administrators in public and private schools and all other first-time buyers are also welcome. You must pre-register. Seating is limited. Attendees receive special services discounts from the presenters and a free initial credit report. To learn more contact Fleming at 866-565-0432 or visit www.bayareainvestor.com.

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Listed at \$495,000

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Spacious Condo (#210) at Pacific Plaza located across from SL BART, transportation, shops, restaurants, swimming pool, clubhouses, exercise facility
OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4PM
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14161 Seagate
2BR/2BA, 1-car garage and 1 carport. Vaulted ceilings, close to Montclair and course and San Leandro Marina

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by

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Coming Soon in Moraga. Totally remodeled luxurious, quality built with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Backs up to open space. End unit, dramatic, vaulted ceilings, marble, granite, crown molding, new bath and kitchen. Private and quiet neighborhood, yet close to shops, excellent schools



Commercial Industrial Buildings
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Aspen Construction with parking. Major company anchor tenant
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Charming turn of the century home

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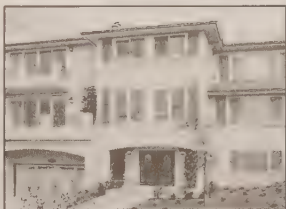
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ALAIN PINE
REALTOR

OAKLAND

\$2,299,000



Magnificent San Francisco Views
This desirable 5+bd/4ba Oakland hills home in new condition with large elegant rooms has a gourmet kitchen open to FR, library, amazing master suite, adjoining bonus room and magnificent bay views.

WALNUT CREEK

\$1,850,000



You Can Have It All
This fabulous south Walnut Creek property is a perfect combination of a beautiful, functional house and spectacular grounds. 4bd plus large bonus room. Pool/spa/waterfall, sport court, lawns, colorful gardens.

ALAMO

\$1,799,000



Sophisticated Stonegate Craftsman
Lovely custom home with great style and quality. Welcoming front porch, high ceilings, 5 bedrooms, office and playroom. Peaceful views and total privacy. Pool, spa, built-in BBQ and lush landscaping.

EL CERRITO

\$1,499,000



Desirable El Cerrito Hills
Built as the Torvik family estate, 4bd/4ba French Colonial offers an elegant formal and inviting interior with rooms and features an office, family room and 3-car garage on 0.24+/- acres.

LAFAYETTE

\$1,495,000



Outstanding Lafayette Home
5bd/3.5ba home with open floor plan, walls of windows, vaulted ceilings, designer gourmet kitchen, large media room, 4FPs, fabulous guest quarters, sport court. Cul-de-sac location near trails. Easy commute to city.

DUBLIN

\$1,395,000



Breathtaking Backyard
Fabulous 5 bedroom home in Dublin Ranch. Decorator perfect inside and out with the most amazing backyard including terrace, patio with trellis, grassy areas and waterfall over slab granite.

OAKLAND

\$1,350,000



Casual California Living
Montclair-Piedmont Pines with City Views. Charming updated 4bd/4ba home, appealing family room, large workshop, beautiful garden and panoramic San Francisco views from two decks.

NOVATO

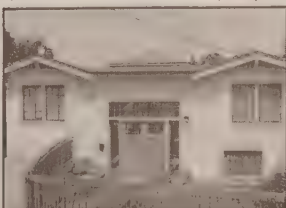
\$1,275,000



New Listing.
Elegant 2-story well-maintained 4bd/3ba home in peaceful wooded setting. Gourmet kitchen, master suite with private retreat and FP, deep tub, FDR, surround sound, laundry room, 3-car garage, 3FPs.

OAKLAND

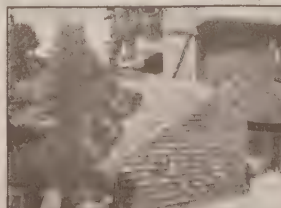
\$799,000



Gardener's Paradise
Fall in love with this charming lodge-style home located in the desirable Glenview district. Features include: sunny atrium, family room, decks with tree views, hot tub, garden and greenhouse.

OAKLAND

\$739,000



Close To Village
This 'Sea Ranch' contemporary offers a level out lawn off the FR, newer gas kitchen, formal DR, breakfast nook, office, hardwood, FP, privacy and a view of Marin. Open and sunny 3bd/2.5ba near Montclair Village.

OAKLAND

\$649,000



Enchanting Haddon Hills Home
Enchanting 3+bd/1.5ba Haddon Hills home. Gleaming with natural light this home is very spacious and has views of downtown. Detached cottage with bath. Easy commute to San Francisco.

OAKLAND

\$195,000



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Land for sale. Quiet hideaway retreat. Located close to Montclair shops, cafes, and restaurants. Call for more details.

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NEW LISTING ~ OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22 2-4:30PM





6055 Johnston Drive, Oakland ~ Offered at \$879,000

Enjoy hill views from this secluded cul-de-sac setting on the desirable Piedmont side of Montclair. Three-plus bedrooms, three baths, kitchen/family room and rumpus with fireplace.

Georgia Cornell

510.338.1325

www.pacunion.com

RENATA OPEN SAT 11am-4pm

Pride of ownership-many upgrades! 727 E. Military - Townhome. Lovely! \$375,000

CLERITO - VIEWS!

2328 Carquinez Ave. 4 bed + bonus room 2.5 baths Open House Sunday 1-4pm Help-U-Sell Bay Area Berkeley Properties Broker \$720,000

MONTCLAIR HIDDEN TREASURES!

5800 Westover Drive Large home on 1/2 acre! Open House Sunday 2-5 pm. Call 510-848-0110 Help-U-Sell Bay Area Berkeley Properties Broker

MAVNY

Light and lovely 2 bed/2 bath condo. Many amenities. 555 Gateview #425 Open House Sunday 1-4 pm. 510-848-0110 Help-U-Sell Berkeley Prop. Bk.

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(510) 848-0110 Broker (707) 297-0550
1400 Shattuck Avenue
Each office is independently owned and operated

The GRUBB Co.



545 Cragmont Avenue, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Absolutely adorable Confer-built cottage! Two bedrooms, one bath, formal dining room, attached garage and great garden! Wonderful North Berkeley Hills neighborhood.

Offered at \$795,000

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Thousand Oaks FINANCIAL
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Open Sunday, May 22 & 29 2:00pm-4:30pm



2824 Burton Drive, Oakland

This spacious, bright and charming 4+ bedroom, 3 bath contemporary home has an incredible construction quality that draws in the peace and quiet that surrounds the area. Exceptionally bright, roomy, high ceiling living and dining room with granite trim fireplace enhances the versatile floor plan. Kitchen opens onto a private deck and court yard. Hill side view grasp your attention with the home office, storage space and master suite with a walk-in closet.

Offered at \$849,000



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HeritageRealEstate.com



San Pablo
\$899,000
4-2BR units remodeled kitchens. New paint & carpet. 4 garages. All vacant. Ready for new owners

Victor Fierro - (510)339-8900



Alameda
\$899,000

Classic 4-plex. Circa 1896 near Gold Coast. Sunny. High ceilings. Original details. Wonderful opportunity for owner/occupant. Close to shops, beach and lot of other goodies.

Andrea Gordon (510)339-8900



San Francisco
\$869,000
4BR/4BA. Enormous condo! Ocean views, hwd flrs. 2 kit. (1 unwarranted), garden, 1 garage space & laundry, TIC possibility. Low HOA dues. A must see!

1580 La Playa St. #3
Open Sunday 2-4:30
Andrea Gordon - (510)339-8900



Montclair
\$799,000
3BR/2.5BA. Gorgeous multi-level contemporary with distinctive design details & generous living spaces. FR w/ frplc. opens to cooks kit. & deck. Master Suite. w/ marble tile and bath.

Cathy Truelove - (510) 339-8900



Berkeley
\$659,000
3BR/2BA. Unique, spacious condo near UC. Gourmet Ghetto/shops. Soaring ceiling & architecturally significant frplc. in living area. Updtd kit. Parking.

Miriam Wilson - (510)339-8900



Oakland
\$599,000
3BR/2BA. Stunning Victorian in the Diamond district. Large backyard. 2 apt. units downstairs. Views of the East Bay hills.

2562 Montana St.
Open Sun 2-4:30PM
Victor Fierro - (510)339-8900



Berkeley
\$525,000
3BR/1BA. Classic Berkeley bungalow. Circa 1914, w/most of the trimmings. LR w/ great frplc. Formal DR w/ built-ins. Split level 3rd BR. 1 car gar. All appl. Incl.

1435 Russell St.
Open Sun 2-5:00PM
Nick Lavrov - (510)339-8900



Montclair
\$275,000
Beautiful gentle upslope lot in desirable Montclair. 2 parcels directly across from Bishops Ct. at Paso Robles.

0 Shepherd Canyon Rd.
Open All Day - Vacant Land
Sheila Brox Crawford
(510)339-8900

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

1416 Bay St - \$568,000
 227 Beach Rd - \$600,000
 339 Broadway - \$450,000
 401 Camden Rd - \$749,000
 1044 Central Av - \$725,500
 1610 Encinal Av - \$590,000
 309 Hollister Av - \$742,500
 380 Hollister Av - \$785,000
 390 Hollister Av - \$729,500
 147 Justin Cr - \$905,000
 624 Lincoln Av - \$775,000
 313 Maitland Dr - \$672,500
 1819 Union St - \$422,000
 1333 Webster A313 - \$324,000

ALBANY

1050 Kains Av 3 - \$516,000
 535 Pierce St 1315 - \$500,000

BERKELEY

2409 10th St - \$800,000
 1424 Alcatraz Av - \$625,000
 1310 Bay View Pl - \$1,403,000
 1814 Blake St 2 - \$375,000
 2424 Byron St - \$645,000
 1859 Catalina Av - \$762,000
 1170 Cragmont Av - \$862,000
 2018 East 9th St - \$425,000
 100 Fairlawn Dr - \$901,000
 2210 Los Angeles - \$1,230,000
 2232 McKinley Av - \$655,000
 1170 Oxford St - \$918,000
 2137 Parker St - \$885,000
 2914 Piedmont Av - \$1,300,000
 1326 Russell St - \$400,000
 2149 Sacramento - \$625,000
 1644 San Pablo 2 - \$295,000
 2147 Stuart St 2 - \$390,000
 973 Ventura Av - \$800,000
 2231 Woolsey St - \$640,000

EL CERRITO

709 Elm St - \$550,000
 1515 Liberty St - \$480,000
 2628 Mira Vista Dr - \$711,000
 1414 Richmond St - \$715,000
 703 Seaview Dr - \$549,000

EL SOBRANTE

903 Appian Knoll - \$465,000
 4199 Garden Ln - \$660,000
 4350 Jana Vista Rd - \$485,000
 3430 SP Dam Rd 51 - \$329,000
 978 St. Andrews Dr - \$448,000
 5202 Valley View Rd - \$599,000

EMERYVILLE

1121 40th 2204 - \$470,000
 1121 40th 2301 - \$525,000
 1121 40th 3202 - \$313,500
 1121 40th 3301 - \$322,000
 1121 40th 3403 - \$338,000
 1121 40th 4102 - \$309,000
 1211 67th St - \$630,000
 1215 67th St - \$645,000
 6 Captain 230E - \$320,000
 6363 Christie 903 - \$385,000
 38 Loop 22 - \$300,000
 51 Loop 22 - \$680,000
 57 Loop 22 - \$516,000
 59 Loop 22 - \$525,000

KENSINGTON

257 Arlington Av - \$675,000
 12 Edwin Dr - \$1,100,000
 31 Kenilworth Dr - \$565,000

OAKLAND

1940 100th Av - \$384,000
 1245 104th Av - \$376,000
 1750 104th Av - \$410,000
 957 105th Av - \$275,000
 2356 107th Av - \$450,000
 655 12th St 401 - \$561,000
 2112 13th Av - \$301,000
 1515 14th Av 401 - \$479,000
 2004 18th Av - \$615,000
 933 21st St - \$499,000
 804 31st St - \$480,000
 1028 32nd St - \$388,000
 1162 32nd St - \$297,000
 2411 34th Av - \$300,000
 1478 34th St - \$505,000
 465 38th St - \$650,000
 2200 40th Av - \$445,000
 903 44th St - \$695,000
 1630 46th Av - \$510,000
 2105 51st Av - \$260,000
 2111 51st Av - \$265,000
 845 51st St - \$375,000
 597 54th St - \$933,000
 1238 60th Av - \$385,000
 445 62nd St - \$855,000
 2655 63rd Av - \$420,000
 1198 64th St - \$550,000
 2488 65th Av - \$365,000
 1209 67th St 21 - \$635,000
 1254 76th Av - \$200,000
 2632 78th Av - \$420,000
 1639 81st Av - \$330,000
 2234 86th Av - \$290,000
 2426 89th Av - \$320,000
 1647 90th Av - \$270,000
 2460 90th Av - \$325,000
 1649 94th Av - \$250,000
 10758 Acalanes - \$383,000
 2702 Adeline St - \$440,000
 2617 Alida St - \$871,000
 6008 Auburn Av - \$960,000

See SALES, Page B12

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NEW LISTING



16 Lorita Avenue, Piedmont
 Offered at \$1,876,000

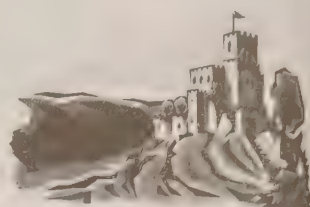


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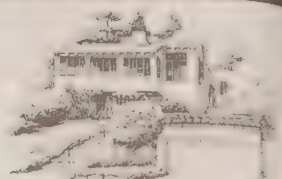
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DAVID RATOOSH / KEITH CARROLL • BERKELEY

GORGEOUS Mediterranean in the



751 Spruce St., Berkeley

Welcome to this sun-filled, spacious 3-bdrm, 2-bath w/old wood charm. Stunning City and bridge views from grand-sized living & dining rooms. Great open floor plan w/cathedral wood-beamed ceilings, beautiful plaster surround fireplace, hardwood floors and eat-in kitchen. Plus space downstairs w/separate entrance. Private backyard & patio. You will love the charming ambience of this lovely home.

Offered at \$825,000

OPEN 2 Sunilays May 22 & 29th
 from 2 - 4:30 p.m.

Visit a photo tour at www.berkhills.com



Denise Milburn
 "Area Specialist"
 510 524-9888 x 35 Office
 510 410-2424 Cell
 dlmilburn@yahoo.com

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BERKELEY HILLS REALTY

View Photo Tour On The Web

36 Kensington Ct., Kensington
 Open Saturday, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
 Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New listing! This property boasts the rare combination of unrivaled 4-bridge views & yard w/level entry. The 4-bdrm, 3-bath home is light, bright & in excellent condition, has cathedral ceilings, 2 fireplaces, an updated custom kitchen, hwd floors, & master suites. Large office could be 5th bdrm.

Bill & Tracy \$1,100,000
 524-9888 x 33

6456 Mystic Street, Rockridge
 Pending

On a friendly cul-de-sac, nr College Ave., BART & Claremont Hotel, w/incredible light, high ceilings & well-proportioned rooms, sits this updated & upgraded Spanish Colonial. Elegant, architect-designed kitchen w/dining area looks onto private & serene bkyd. Wonderful architectural details incl. a magnificent Craftsman tile frpl in the graceful living rm. 3 bdrms, 2.5 baths, & grdn studio.

Norah Brower \$1,088,000
 524-9888 x 26

20 Northgate Ave., Berkeley
 Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

New listing! Style, great views, and rare privacy. This gracious, beautifully-maintained home is sited on a lg lot (10,164 sq. ft. per Assessor's records) in the coveted N. Berkeley hills. 3+ bdrms, 2.5 baths, lg LR, FDR, frpl, gorgeous hwd flrs. Great views to Golden Gate, The Bay, City, & Mt. Tam. Prvt. rear grdn, sauna, 2-car garage.

Peter Damm \$995,000
 524-9888 x 13

751 Spruce St., Berkeley
 Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

Spacious 3-bdrm, 2-bath Mediterranean w/Old World Charm. Stunning City & bridge views from formal rooms! Great open floor plan w/cathedral, wood-beamed ceilings, beautiful fireplace, formal dining, spacious eat-in kitchen, & level bkyd. Plus space downstairs w/separate entrance. There is an abundance of light & warmth in this lovely home.

Denise Milburn \$825,000
 524-9888 x 35



905 Ventura Ave., Albany
 Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New listing! A Golden Gate Bridge view in Albany's best location. This fabulous 3-bdrm, 2-bath home has incredible living spaces. The generous rooms are appointed with every desirable detail: coved, inset ceilings, wainscoting with plate rails, built-in, glass-front hutch, hardwood floors, bow window, window seat, fireplace...

Mary Lou Allen \$795,000
 524-9888 x 53

1195 Keeler Ave., Berkeley
 By Appointment

New listing! Get away from it all in your private, woody retreat. Situated on a large lot, this versatile home is perfect for easy living and working at home. Sunny living room, large eat-in kitchen, 3 bdrms, study, 2 baths surrounded by a large deck, patio and garden. 2-car garage. Lower level could be used for in-law.

Maya Trilling \$725,000
 524-9888 x 18

3733 Randolph Ave., Glenview
 Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

New listing! Brown shingle bungalow in lush garden setting combines wonderful period details with a kitchen a cook will covet. 2 bdrms, plus rm used as 3rd bdrm, 1 bath, artfully updated kitchen w/bright brkfst rm. Separate workshop/studio in edible grdn w/fruit trees & veggies. A delight!

Arlene Baxter \$589,000
 524-9888 x 19

646 Albarbaro St., El Cerrito
 By Appointment

Sweet, sunny home, quiet location close to BART and El Cerrito Plaza. Dining area opens to patio and large backyard, updated kitchen and bathroom, 2 spacious bdrms, a plus room for music and relaxation.

Maya Trilling \$475,000
 524-9888 x 18



"Thank you for the countless ways you helped us find exactly the right house.
 We're very grateful for your persistence and patience."
 —M.G. & M.M., Oakland

Albany • Berkeley • El Cerrito • Emeryville • Kensington • Oakland • Piedmont • Richmond • and beyond

year's goal is \$55,000 or "55 for '05." The 2005 Chairperson is Shirley Covington of Prudential California Realty. To find out more about donating call 510-834-2010.

BE PREPARED

You have the listing. How do you convince your client there's more to getting top dollar for their home than putting a sign in the yard? Find out by attending "Preparing A Home For Sale." Veteran business

coach and trainer Kitty Cole presents this workshop. Information includes a discussion on remodeling. To learn more call 925-254-1900 or send e-mail to Kittybiz@aol.com.

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ideas. Visit the Web site at www.notariesunlimited.com.

WHAT?

Real estate Affiliate Alan Huffy of American Tax Professionals wears more than more hat. Evenings and weekends he moonlights as "The Crooner By The Bay." He's just out his second CD. He's available for weddings and other events. He might croon a tune for you at 510-791-8962.

WHAT?

I'll announce your news item in this column if you send it to me. Information deadline is two weeks before the event.

Send an email to bobbiereid@mindspring.com.

Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191.

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

This week's Open Home Guide starts on B20.

GRUBB Co.



641 Creston Road, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Elegant and dramatic custom three bedroom, two and one half bath home. The spacious and sunny floorplan with patio and decks is perfect for entertaining. Lovely master suite on the main level. Filtered Bay views. Two-car garage.

Offered at \$965,000

ANNE WALRAND
652.2133/446
awalrand@grubbco.com
GRUBBCO.COM

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Photo Tours
of this and other current listings.

258 Amherst Avenue • Kensington

This sun-filled property has an incredible San Francisco Bay view and a truly versatile floor plan. It could be a large 4br/4ba house, a 3br/3ba house with a 1br/1ba apartment, or a duplex with two 2br/2ba flats. Plus: decks, patios, and attractive gardens. Kensington Hilltop School. Offered at \$950,000.



RON
EGHERMAN
292.3050

TODD
HODSON
559.2915

Open 2:00 - 4:30
Sunday, May 22nd



www.marvingardens.com

961 Kains Ave. • Albany

Three bedroom, three bath home less than a block to Solano Avenue. Charming living room with built-ins plus a large family room with lots of light! New carpeting, loads of storage space. One-car garage with interior access. Cozy fenced backyard with a deck. Great location near shops, restaurants & Albany schools! Offered at \$599,000.



Meridee Carter
Marvin Gardens
Berkeley

510.527.2700 x39 office
510.507.0243 cell

Open 1:00 - 5:00PM
Sunday, May 22



325 Pomona Ave. • El Cerrito

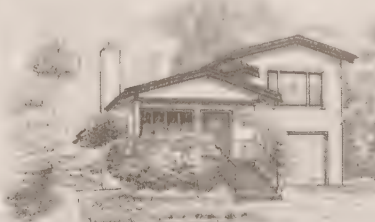
Lovely, spacious, sun-filled Traditional in a popular neighborhood. Three bedrooms, one bath, and an extra space with potential on the main level. 2 bonus rooms plus another bath on lower level. Abundant storage. Pretty gardens. Well-maintained and many significant upgrades. A Wonderful Home! Offered at \$625,000.



Wendy Bakkenta
Marvin Gardens
Berkeley

510.527.2700 x33 office
510.710.7809 cell

Open 2:00 - 4:00
Sunday, May 22



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marvin
gardens

Open Homes



Kensington \$950,000
Enjoy incredible views from this 4 bedroom, 4 bath home close to Kensington Village. Features include formal dining and living rooms, sunroom, two huge kitchens and a family room.

258 Amherst Ave.
Todd Hodson
Ron Egberman

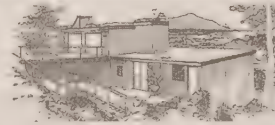
Open Sun 2-4:30
527-9111
524-0800



Kensington \$790,000
Mid-century modern with lovely Bay views. Wonderful light-filled home with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, updated kitchen. Romantic master bedroom retreat with fireplace and beautiful new bath. Hilltop school. Large garage w/ skylights.

4 Highgate Rd.
Celia Conus

Open Sun 2-4:30
524-0800



El Cerrito \$749,000
With striking Bay views, this 3 bedroom, 2 bath contemporary home is in a secluded and prestigious El Cerrito neighborhood. Offers true privacy and comfort.

1349 Contra Costa Dr.
Herman Sun

Open Sun 2-4:30
527-9111



Berkeley \$719,000
WALK TO SOLANO AVE. from this charming, sun-filled bungalow. Only 2 bks to Solano Ave. shows. 3 BR, 2 BA, or 2 BR, 1 BA + separate in-law. LR & DR w/ built-ins. Updated kitchen opens to yard. Plus room perfect for home gym, family room or teen den.

1768 Capistrano Ave
Ann Arriola Plant

Open Sunday 2-4
527-2700 x 27



El Cerrito \$645,000
This gorgeous split-level home on a tree-lined street in the Hills has a lovely Golden Gate view, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, large formal living and dining rooms, great yard, beautiful hardwood floors. Close to BART and Harding Elementary School.

420 Balra Drive
Mykah Larkins & Mary Gray

Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30
527-9111



El Cerrito \$625,000
Spacious 3-plus bedroom home. Large plus space downstairs with lots of potential. Many important upgrades. Sun-filled rooms and abundant storage. Pretty gardens. Located on a great street.

325 Pomona Ave.
Wendy Bakkenta

Open Sunday 2-4
527-2700 x 33



Berkeley \$525,000
Classic Charm! 2 + bedrooms, 1 bath. Large yard, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, formal dining room, garage. Walk to Berkeley Bowl, BART & theatres! Sweet!

1932 Oregon St.
Luanne Warner Katz

Open Sunday 2-4 PM
510-847-0532



Berkeley \$475,000
Two-story, 2 bedroom/1 bath townhouse-style condo in beautiful landscaped Elmwood complex. Hardwood floors, front and back doors. Close to UC Berkeley, transportation, College and Telegraph Avenue shops and restaurants.

2429 Russell St.
Barbara Kaplan

Open Sun 2-4:30
527-9111



Richmond Annex \$459,000
Just Listed! Super-clean 2-bedroom starter home with updated kitchen. Many amenities throughout including Pergo floors, fireplace in living room, new exterior & interior paint, clear pest control report. In move-in condition. You won't be disappointed!

5805 Sacramento Ave.
Darrel Hoh

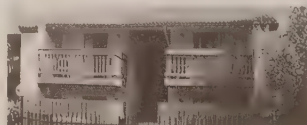
Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30
524-0800



N. Oakland \$379,000
Cute, petite duplex on large wooded lot. Side by side 1-bedroom, 1-bath units with lovely yard near PIXAR, Arizmendi, Emeryville border. Cosmetically upgraded with quaint charm.

1016-18 53rd St.
Gloria Polanski

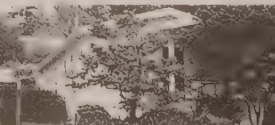
Open Sat & Sun 2-4
524-0800



Walnut Creek \$299,000
Fantastic ground floor Station West condo unit. One bedroom, one bath, newly remodeled kitchen, gas fireplace, enclosed patio facing swimming pool. Easy walking distance to BART. Comfort and convenience!

2742 Oak Rd. #191
Mykah Larkins
Darrel Hoh

Open Sun 1-4
527-9111
925-363-4749



Kensington \$TBA
Absolutely charming bungalow with stunning gardens and convenient location near Colusa Circle & Fairmount Ave. shops and restaurants. Two+ bedrooms, 1 bath, detached bonus room, tastefully remodeled kitchen, gorgeous floors.

Colusa Ave.
Mykah Larkins & Mary Gray

Coming Soon
527-9111

577 Solano Avenue
Berkeley CA 94707
(510) 527.2700

2 Fairmount Avenue
El Cerrito CA 94530
(510) 527.9111

1932 Oregon Avenue
Berkeley CA 94707
(510) 524.0800

1741 Richmond Avenue
Richmond CA 94801
(510) 231.1640

more information about these properties visit www.marvingardens.com

Sales

FROM PAGE B10

1950 Auseon Av - \$375,000
 5707 Ayala Av - \$691,000
 8825 B St - \$380,000
 2539 Bartlett St - \$530,000
 7009 Broadway - \$823,000
 12939 Brookpark - \$804,000
 221 Cairo Rd - \$385,000
 220 Caldecott Ln 307 - \$535,000
 300 Caldecott Ln 315 - \$405,000
 1308 Campbell St - \$485,000
 720 Canyon Oaks Dr - \$340,000
 555 Capistrano Dr - \$395,000
 614 Clara St - \$395,000
 6250 Crown Av - \$705,000
 3726 Delmont Av - \$125,000
 1907 Durant Av - \$420,000
 1616 East 19th St - \$410,000
 1726 East 19th St - \$506,000
 2223 East 21st St - \$390,000
 531 El Paseo Dr - \$365,000
 9856 Elmar Av - \$355,000
 3941 Elston Av - \$694,000
 4109 Emerald St - \$705,000
 10031 Empire Rd - \$313,000
 4050 Everett Av 2 - \$540,000
 2509 Filbert St - \$372,000

690 Florence Av - \$470,000
 1022 Foothill Bl - \$458,000
 2328 Fruitvale Av - \$485,000
 2515 Highland Av - \$410,000
 6715 Hillmont Dr - \$380,000
 5603 Holway St - \$280,000
 5919 Idaho St - \$539,000
 1767 Indian Wy - \$1,300,000
 8315 Iris St - \$330,000
 10907 Julius St - \$480,000
 1 Lakeside Dr 1208 - \$416,500
 1 Lakeside Dr 403 - \$626,500
 1 Lakeside Dr 618 - \$365,000
 1 Lakeside Dr 901 - \$311,000
 1 Lakeside Dr 907 - \$647,500
 10114 Longfellow - \$403,000
 3929 Lyman Rd - \$850,000
 935 MacArthur Bl - \$675,000
 3275 Maple Av - \$540,000
 4107 Maple Av - \$605,000
 2840 MLK Jr Wy - \$475,000
 3719 Maybelle Av - \$515,000
 3711 Maybelle Ln - \$510,000
 10806 McIntyre St - \$442,000
 4724 Melrose Av - \$350,000
 5028 Melrose Av - \$270,000
 5040 Melrose Av - \$270,000
 51 Melvin Ct - \$925,000
 43 Mission Hills - \$635,000
 2405 Monterey Bl - \$1,275,000

See SALES, Page B14

COLDWELL BANKER

COLDWELL BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKER/AGE

306 Zagora • Danville



Gorgeous light, bright executive home on quiet street. 4+ beds, 3.5 ba, built-in spa w/waterfall. 3100+ sq. ft., close to Blackhawk Plaza shops, grocery and Starbucks. Backs to open space, hill views from master, great schools, comm., pool. Choose from our granite - installed before you move in!

Offered at \$1,298,800

35 Wiley Court • Danville



Greenbrook 3 bed/2.5 ba home on private 12,000+ sq. ft. lot w/access to Iron Horse Trail. Family room opens to kitchen, and both formals are here, with plantation shutters on front windows. Court location, gleaming hardwood floors, new carpet and paint, and close to community pool, playground and downtown Danville. Move on in.

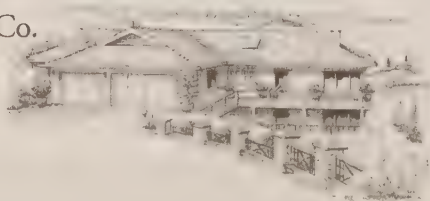
Offered at \$919,900



Barbara Wilson
 925.831.3343
 barb.wilson@cbsnorcal.com

COLDWELL BANKER

The GRUBB Co.



5947 Grizzly Peak, Oakland

BY APPOINTMENT. World-class views of San Francisco and the Bay from this home in a national park-like setting. Five bedrooms, three + baths, including a master suite on the main floor with breathtaking views. The second floor is home to the family room, a wine cellar and tasting room, home office and conference room with a separate entrance. Manicured and terraced gardens lead to a level area for outdoor gatherings.

Offered at \$2,150,000



ANTHONY RIGGINS
 339.0400/282
 ariggins@grubbco.com
 GRUBBCO.COM

Visit GRUBBCO.COM for
 Photo Tours
 of this and other current listings.

The GRUBB Co.



2144 Spaulding Avenue, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A sweet two bedroom, one bath Berkeley bungalow on a friendly street close to transportation & shopping. Features include hardwood floors, double garage/workshop & large rear garden.

Offered at \$559,000

CAROLYN JONES
 A Lifetime of Knowledge and Experience in the East Bay
 Office: 510.652.2133/439
 cjones@grubbco.com
 GRUBBCO.COM

The GRUBB Co.



2430 Acton Street, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Lovely split-level Mediterranean w/original architectural detailing! Great central location! Two + bedrooms, one bath, formal dining room, light-filled eat-in kitchen, magic garden & oversized garage.

Offered at \$585,000



SUSIE SCHEVILL
 652.2133/444
 sschevill@grubbco.com
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REAL ESTATE NEWS
BETTER HOMES REALTY - EMERYVILLE
Proudly presents
ANNE AYANKOYA • TOP PRODUCING REALTOR

1731 Blake Street, Berkeley
 3+ Bedroom/2 Bath Single Family Home
 Listed at \$560,000



5036 Nunn Street, Richmond
 Large 4-Bedroom/2.5 Bath Single Family Home, quiet location
 Listed at \$540,000

RECENTLY SOLD

10631-10633 International Blvd., Oakland, CA (Commercial Property with Units)
 Originally offered at \$628,888, Property Sold with Multiple Offers

825-827 46th Street
 Lovely Triplex
 Sold with Multiple Offers
 Listed at \$665,000

6156 Harrison Avenue
 Oakland, CA
 Originally offered at \$540,000
 Property received



Looking to get your home listed and SOLD! Please give Anne Ayankoya a call for a FREE Competitive Market Analysis of the value of your home. Please stop in at our new location in Emeryville, the Bay Street Mall, ground floor (below the AMC Theaters) and ask Anne for free movie tickets for the kids.

(510) 380-6017

"A Rare Opportunity"
Presenting 958 Kingston Avenue, Piedmont

This classic home has been painstakingly restored to its original 1926 character and charm. From the structural integrity of the home to its attention to fine detail and craftsmanship, this home sits on one of the most desirable streets in Piedmont.

Offered at \$1,195,000

- 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
- 2200 square feet (buyer to verify).
- 327.5 square feet of finished storage area (btv)
- Hardwood floors
- Granite kitchen
- Crown molding
- Under counter lights
- Recessed lighting
- Wooden window treatments

- Period Tile Fireplace
- Mahogany French Doors
- New wood windows
- SKY lights
- Beautifully landscaped front & back yards w/ automatic sprinkler system
- 2 decks
- 1 car finished garage with driveway
- Upgraded electric & plumbing
- Close to Beach Elementary School & Piedmont Avenue

Kelly McColgan Shorewood Realtors 310-567-8619

SOLD



Located in desirable Upper Happy Valley in Lafayette, this dramatic contemporary designed by renowned architect Bill Remick offers soaring ceilings, an open floorplan, 1+ acre grounds & exceptional views of Mt. Diablo & Las Trampas

4131 Canyon Road, Lafayette
 Offered at \$2,650,000



Karen Lum, Realtor
 510 339-4776
 homes@karenlum.com
 www.karenlum.com
 Represented the Buyers

COLDWELL BANKER
NORTHERN CALIF.

COLDWELL BANKER

The Best Duplex In Berkeley



OPEN Saturday & Sunday 1:30-4:30

1932 & 1934 Blake St.

A pristine one of a kind treasure. A wonderful & charming live-in duplex. 2 bedrooms, one bath w/additional income from 2nd unit rental, one bedroom, one bath. Property well maintained w/hardwood floors, kitchen, bath, & hardwood floors. Large backyard with deck. Great location. Hurry this won't last!

Offered at \$795,000



Katie Macks
 925.253.4608

www.KatieMacks.com • email: katie@katiemacks.com

Just Listed • Open Sunday 2-4:30



206 Mountain Avenue, Piedmont

Sunny traditional in a prime central Piedmont location. 3 + bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, formal dining with built-ins, eat-in kitchen/family room, large bonus room.

Offered at \$1,425,000



Dian Hymer, CRS
 Associate Broker
 Previous Property Specialist
 510-339-4777
 Photo Tours At:
 dianhymer.com

Previous International

Sales

FROM PAGE B12

PIEDMONT

661 Blair Av - \$1,250,000
35 Sylvan Wy - \$1,150,000

RICHMOND

719 19th St - \$375,000
654 32nd St - \$490,000
419 33rd St - \$400,000
633 38th St - \$370,000
537 4th St - \$325,000
603 6th St - \$355,000
669 8th St - \$375,000
204 A Dr - \$917,500
3423 Andrade - \$465,000
225 Barrett Av - \$435,000
125 Bissell Av - \$290,000
1201 Brickyard 112 - \$525,000
1758 Burbeck Av - \$355,000
3611 Chanslor Av - \$410,000
2920 Clinton Av - \$415,000
1515 Costa Av - \$420,000
5120 Creely Av - \$400,000
1609 Cutting Bl - \$430,000
3154 Deseret Dr - \$525,500
1345 Filbert St - \$360,000
3011 Garvin Av - \$474,000
1103 Greystone - \$550,000
320 Grove Av - \$433,000
548 Grove Av - \$420,000
704 Harrison Dr - \$375,000
1755 Hellings Av - \$350,000
816 Johnson Dr - \$410,000
928 Lassen St - \$353,000
3200 Lowell Av - \$402,500
940 Lucas Av - \$425,000
2713 McBryde Av - \$457,000
4304 McGlothen - \$380,000
3218 Moran Av - \$400,000
1413 Ohio Av - \$370,000
2615 Ohio Av - \$490,000
816 Poppy Ct - \$570,000
41 Sanford Av - \$412,000
202 Seaciff Wy - \$848,500
444 S. 17th St - \$657,500
3017 Stephen Dr - \$575,000
4528 Taft Av - \$560,000
1616 Truman St - \$260,000

6044 Wenk Av - \$400,000
440 Wood Glen Dr - \$823,000

SAN LEANDRO

1557 136th Av - \$510,000
1768 138th Av - \$500,000
1630 165th Av - \$525,000
14491 Acacia St - \$585,000
131 Accolade Dr - \$630,000

1812 Bancroft Av - \$469,000
348 Bowling Green - \$531,000
15646 Calgary St - \$548,000
1101 Camellia Ct - \$670,000
1150 Coburn Ct - \$455,000
622 Douglas Dr - \$490,000
250 Haas Av - \$523,000

See SALES, Page B18



\$6,950 Set Fee
Full service. Big savings.
The experts next door.

John Chang
Realtor

186 ORR RD., ALAMEDA

3 bedrooms/2.5 baths, just remodeled. Marble entry, laminated wood floor, new carpet, new bathrooms, new landscaping, new appliances, great location.

Open Sat. & Sun. 1-4.

\$738,000



1726 LAFAYETTE ST., ALAMEDA

old world charm with modern upgrades, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, family/entertainment room combo, and many storage spaces. new granite kitchen countertop, new bathroom, new landscaping, approx. 2100 sq. ft.

Open Sunday 1-5

\$729,000



1046 FONTANA DR., ALAMEDA

gorgeous townhouse in bay farm island with luxury upgrades. 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths, raised pattern carpet, modern kitchen & bathrooms, plantation shutters, double-pane windows, private courtyard.

Open Sunday 1-5

\$578,000



Active Listings:

2142 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda

4 bedrooms, 3 baths, beautiful renovations, 1880 sq. ft.

\$749,000

1433 Morton St., Alameda

3 bedroom, 2 bath Condo, completely remodeled.

\$425,000

1715A 2nd St., Alameda

3 bedroom, 1 bath, co-op, private yard.

\$335,000

3036 Brook St., Oakland

Fully rented five units, great investment.

\$725,000

1035 75th Ave., Oakland

Two houses on one lot. Well maintained. Close to BART.

\$449,500

1704 Filbert St., Oakland

Legal Duplex, 2/1 and 1/1 + a nonconforming 1/1 unit or office.

\$509,000

2545 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda / www.HUSAlamedahomes.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2-4:30PM

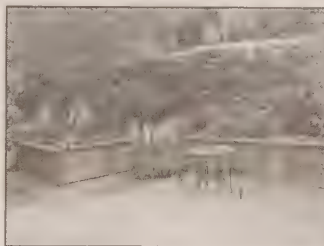
7 Tyson Circle, Piedmont
Offered at \$1,395,000

Secluded, serene setting, 5BR/4BA (2 master suites). Spacious living and dining rooms open to deck and canyon view. Remodeled kitchen with granite counters and state-of-the-art appliances. 2-car attached garage. Plenty of storage. Large landscaped yard with patio.



Martha Holstlaw

510.338.1312



www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

Craftsman duplex in trendy Emeryville!
Front: 1 bedroom, 1 bath with vintage fireplace, built-ins, dining room, wood floors. Back: Studio with plus room, updated kitchen, wood floors. Large, sunny yard; huge basement!



Lorri Arazi

510.338.1330

1055 45th Street, Emeryville
Offered at \$550,000

www.LorriArazi.com



JUST SOLD

6 ABBOT WAY, PIEDMONT
5 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths - Listed at \$1,395,000
Represented the Buyer - Sold with 3 offers



JUST SOLD

4321 ESSEX ST., EMERYVILLE
3++ Bedrooms, 2 Baths - Listed at \$499,000
Represented the Buyer - Sold with 15 offers



JUST SOLD

6057 VALLEY VIEW RD., OAKLAND
2+ Bedrooms, 2 Baths - Listed at \$699,000
Represented the Sellers - Sold with 7 offers



PENDING

227 MONTE VISTA AVE., OAKLAND
3+ Bedrooms, 2 Baths - Listed at \$729,000
Representing the Seller - Pending with 4 offers

Teri Carlisle

Senior Sales Consultant

510.338.1305

tcarlisle@pacunion.com www.pacunion.com



GMAC Real Estate Services

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GMAC Real Estate



CHARMING CAPE COD IN REDWOOD CITY
Truly charming and unique single level home with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Remodeled kitchen by a craftsman woodworker featuring maple cabinets, granite counter, stainless steel appliances and more. Bay views from the enchanting front porch. Vaulted beamed ceilings in rear bedroom. Beautiful views of secluded park.

3536 Victor Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$649,000

Diane Earl McCan

510.338.1352

www.pacunion.com

Jennie A.

510.338.1352

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

26 CLAREMONT AVENUE, ORINDA

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 21 & 22, 1-4PM



Beautifully updated single-story home. 2BA. 1654± sq. ft. Remodeled kitchen with cherry cabinets, peninsula, range & travertine floors. Separate living rooms with fireplace, Brazilian floors, crown moulding & recessed lighting. Kitchen, dining & master open to brick terrace with wine cellar. Endless yard with white picket fence. Great location.

www.26ClaremontAveOrinda.com

Offered at \$899,000

by Jones Green Real Estate Advisors

Dana Green

925.339.1918

925.339.1918

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate



Charming home on cul-de-sac. Filled living room with warm tones, hardwood floors. Main level has master suite, plus room and Upstairs has second and sun room. Level yard.

3427 Guido Street, Oakland
Offered at \$639,000

Diane Earl McCan

510.338.1352

www.pacunion.com

Ashley O.

510.338.1352

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

21 DRURY COURT, OAKLAND

BIENVENUE!



Situated on a gated promontory, the Oakland Hills, with unsurpassed views of San Francisco Bay, Bridge and Canyon, this enchanted, very secluded custom-built home, reminiscent of a piece of Europe. The spacious 3,000± sq. ft. multi-level interior offers a mix of spaces to accommodate the most informal of gatherings. Relax and entertain on one of the many patios in the level garden.

Offered at \$4,000,000

For Photos Please Visit www.21DruryCourt.com

Susan Peterson

925.253.6223

Gillian

925.253.6223

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 21 & 22, 1-4PM

OH, TO LIVE NEAR PIEDMONT AVENUE!



Classic 1916 storybook home, tucked away in a hidden garden. Over the trellis, screen door, leading to light-filled rooms with wood floors, country style and upstairs two bedrooms with a bathroom. All in a great location!

4223 Howe Street, Oakland
Offered at \$575,000

Joan Dark

510.338.1316

www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

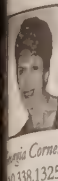
GMAC Real Estate

NEW PIEDMONT LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2-4:30PM



125 Hillside Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$2,650,000

Extraordinary traditional in central Piedmont with fine architectural detailing and quality finishes throughout. Five bedrooms, 4½ baths, den and rumpus. Lush gardens, pool and 1BR/1BA cottage. Beautiful!



Georgia Cornell
510.338.1325

NEW OAKLAND HILLS LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2-5PM



4340 Turner Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$849,000

Do you love living in the City but long for the wide open spaces? This wonderful, 3+BR, 3 full bath mid-century ranch house situated on OVER ONE ACRE of level land is the answer! Located in the Chabot Park Highlands Neighborhood of the Oakland Hills, and backing up to the 14th green of Lake Chabot Golf Course, the land seems to run endlessly out your back door! The remodeled kitchen, separate office and spacious living room with vaulted ceiling & fireplace help make this property truly special!



Vicki Woodhead
510.338.1334

OH, TO LIVE NEAR PIEDMONT AVENUE! OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2-4:30PM



4223 Howe Street, Oakland
Offered at \$575,000

Classic storybook home tucked away in a hidden garden, flowers over the trellis, screen door opening to light-filled rooms, hardwood floors, country kitchen, and upstairs two very charming bedrooms with a bath between. All in a great location!



Jean Darré
510.338.1316

NEW MONTCLAIR LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2-4:30PM



2675 Carlsbrook Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$819,000

Surrounded by lush gardens, this charming Traditional 4BR/2BA New England style home greets you with the inviting feel of the countryside. The spacious living room and dining area open on to a secluded deck and garden which is perfect for entertaining or casual living. Fireplace in the living room, hardwood floors, lovely architectural details and a separate garage. It is truly a great place to call home.



Leslie Avant
510.338.1341

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| PIEDMONT
125 HILLSIDE AVE.
\$2,650,000
Extraordinary traditional in central Piedmont with fine architectural detailing & quality finishes throughout. Five bedrooms, 4½ baths, den and rumpus. Lush gardens, pool and 1BR/1BA cottage. Georgia Cornell x1325 | PIEDMONT PINES
6471 ASCOT DR.
\$949,000 (Open 2-5)
Classic 1948 Streamlined Moderne home. 3BR/2.5BA, formal dining room, rear sundeck & filtered bay view. 2-car garage, large downstairs bonus room. Kathleen Callahan x1343 | UPPER ROCKRIDGE
4515-4519 HARBOR DR.
\$849,000
Darling duplex in desirable neighborhood. Newly remodeled kitchen and baths. Each unit is 1BR/1BA. Nice backyard and covered porch. Dee Knowland x1318 | KENSINGTON
1519 VALLEY RD.
\$775,000
Charming 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Detached office, family room, hardwood floors. Gorgeous gardens & deck. Close to Solano Avenue. Bonnie Hirsch x1337 | SEQUOYAH HEIGHTS
127 IRONWOOD
\$559,000
Price Reduced! Lovely 3BR/2.5BA townhouse with outstanding outdoor living on cul-de-sac. Beautifully remodeled kitchen, family room, living room with fireplace, huge patio. Robyn Mohr x1310 |
| UPPER ROCKRIDGE
1000 CONTRA COSTA RD.
\$1,549,000
New Listing! Big, bright & beautiful 4BR/3.5BA home designed for indoor/outdoor living and entertaining. Many decks w/SF & hill views. Great location. Dee Knowland x1318 | UPPER ROCKRIDGE
96 SONIA ST.
\$879,000
Lovely restored Traditional w/Art Deco details. 4BR/3BA, large rec room & bar area. Vaulted beamed ceiling, landscaped gardens, view, attached garage. Joanna Hirsch x1366 | OAKLAND HILLS
4340 TURNER AVE.
\$849,000 (Open 2-5)
New Listing! Longing for wide open spaces? This wonderful 3+BR/3BA home situated on approx. 1.01 acre of level land is the answer! Office, remodeled kitchen, 2 fireplaces. Vicki Woodhead x1334 | REDWOOD HEIGHTS
3536 VICTOR AVE.
\$649,000 (Open 2-5)
New Listing! Charming & unique single level Cape Cod style 3BR/2BA home. Beautifully remodeled kitchen. South Bay view from living room. Secluded patio. Jennie A. Flanagan x1354 | BERKELEY
1502 5th ST.
\$559,000
Charming 2+BR/1BA home located close to 4th Street shopping area. Lovely kitchen, large light-filled loft & cheerful yard. Spacious detached studio. Rich Gould x1347 |
| PIEDMONT
TYSON CIRCLE
\$1,395,000
New Listing! Secluded serene setting. 5BR/4BA (2+BR) home. Spacious living & dining rooms open to 1st floor. 4+ bath canyon views. Remodeled kitchen, formal dining room, landscaped yard. Martha Holstlaw x1312 | MONTCLAIR
2675 CARISBROOK DR.
\$819,000
New Listing! Charming 4BR/2BA traditional. Lush secluded garden setting. Spacious living room w/fireplace, updated kitchen. Pretty architectural details. Leslie Avant x1341 | ALAMEDA
1315 GROVE ST.
\$785,000 (Open 2-4)
Elegant 3BR/2BA home built in 1910. Inlaid hardwood floors, built-ins, bonus rooms, family room & formal dining room. Tastefully updated. Michelle Miller x1335 | REDWOOD HEIGHTS
3427 GUIDO ST.
\$639,000 (Open 2-5)
Charming 2BR home on cul-de-sac. Sun-filled living room w/beamed ceilings, hardwood floors & fireplace. Plus room, sun room & level rear yard. Ashley O'Neill x1368 | EMERYVILLE
1055 45th ST.
\$550,000
Fabulous craftsman duplex in trendy Emeryville! Front: 1/1 w/vintage fireplace, built-ins, dining room. Back: Studio w/plus room, updated kitchen. Yard, basement. Lorn Arazzi x1330 |
| OAKLAND
1440 LEMERT BLVD.
\$995,000
Price Reduced! 1930's 5+BR/3BA Grand Traditional. Fully detailed living room w/vaulted ceiling & built-ins. Library, 4 fireplaces, remodeled kitchen, huge family room. Steven Bisogni x1379 | MONTCLAIR
1701 ZINN DR.
\$979,000
Built with five year old Hennigan home. Guest bedroom, office, kitchen/family room, lots of storage. Two car attached garage with inside access. Located on a cul-de-sac. Dick Cohen x1308 | BERKELEY
1749 VINE ST.
\$859,000
Enchanting retreat surrounded by sunny decks, trees & gardens. Special 4BR/2BA home w/master suite w/sitting room & views, home office & workshop. Leslie Easterday x1363 | MONTCLAIR
1701 MANZANITA DR.
\$779,000
Stylish contemporary with San Francisco and Bay views. Kitchen/family room opens to sun room, decks and patio. 3BR/2.5BA. Approximately 2466 sq. ft. Teri Carlisle x1305 | PIEDMONT AVENUE
4223 HOWE ST.
\$575,000
Classic 1916 storybook home tucked away in a hidden garden. Flowers over the trellis, light-filled rooms, hardwood floors, country kitchen. 2BR/1BA. Great location. Joan Dark x1316 |
| EL CERRITO
7249 BLAKE ST.
\$545,000
3BR/1BA home set in a garden oasis. Hardwood floors, approximately 1223 sq. ft. Conveniently located near BART, shops, schools & parks. Jack McPhail x1336 | | | | |

BY APPOINTMENT

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| PIEDMONT
Different English Tudor on one of Piedmont's finest streets. Incredible architecture, 4+ bedrooms, 4+ baths, beautiful garden. Library, family room and guest suite. Georgia Cornell x1325 | CLAREMONT HILLS
\$2,650,000
Watch the hawks soar over cities, bridges & Bay from this magnificent mid-century acre lovingly resurrected from the 1991 firestorm. By appointment only. See More Tour @ pacunion.com. Gini Erck x1339 | REDWOOD HEIGHTS
\$1,250,000
Unique 5BR/3.5BA jewel in a private setting on over an acre of land. Stunning bay views, magnificent grounds. Impressive & gracious entryway, formal dining & living rooms. Price includes 2nd lot. Diane E. McCan x1352 | PIEDMONT AVENUE
\$699,000
Beautifully updated one level home built in 1917. Two bedrooms, two baths, deck off the kitchen/breakfast room. Excellent location near restaurants, theater and buses. Kathy Flynn x1317 | MONTCLAIR LOT
\$249,000
Great development potential. Very buildable with moderate grade on northwest side of parcel. Soils report available upon request. Peaceful vistas across Shepherd Canyon. Approximately 6,648 square feet. David Ichikawa x1331 |
|---|--|---|--|--|

510.339.6460

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House hunting this weekend? Get a headstart with the Open Home Guide starting on B20.

274 38th St. Open Sunday May 22nd 2-4:30

\$949,500

Charming Four Plex
Piedmont Ave. Area

- Wonderful architectural detailing
- Lush garden with master landscaping
- Walking distance to shops & cafes
- Each unit has 1 bedroom
- Tasteful update


Barbara McQuaid
(510) 326-7049

Prudential
California Realty


JUST LISTED

UPPER ROCKRIDGE DUPLEX

OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2-4:30PM



4515-4519 Harbord Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$849,000



Charming side-by-side 1BR/1BA duplex units on lovely street in Upper Rockridge. Both units have newly remodeled kitchens and bathrooms. Lots of storage space, secluded back garden and deck, and individual laundry area in each unit. Close to schools and shopping. Fabulous opportunity in coveted neighborhood.

Dee Knowland
510.338.1318

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www.DeKnowlandRealty.com

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Hip & architectural condo for the urban dweller. Small, 3 unit complex, built in 1996 & tastefully completed with concrete floors, dramatic loft, stylish kitchen, bedroom and bath. Close to Fourth Street shops & restaurants, easy access to Berkeley Aquatic Park, Marina and freeways.



2129 5th Street, Berkeley
Photo tour at www.NancyRothman.com
Offered at \$525,000

Nancy Rothman
510.339.2169

www.NancyRothman.com

www.pacunion.com

Established 1976

RED OAK REALTY

Albany Fixer!




1012 PERALTA AVENUE, ALBANY
FIXABLE ALBANY FIXER - Excellent investor/contractor opportunity! Close to schools, access to Solano/Hopkins shopping. Reports: McCormick & GenTech & sewer lateral. Potential for 2nd story. Partial water/Mt. LISTED AT \$499,000


OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22ND 1-4PM

Robin Kingsbury, Realtor®
DIRECT: 510-932-3538 EMAIL: robin@redoakrealty.com

NEW LISTING - OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2-4:30PM



6050 Contra Costa Road, Oakland
Offered at \$1,549,000




This big, bright and beautiful home in Upper Rockridge was designed for indoor/outdoor living and casual entertaining. It's many decks take advantage of San Francisco Bay views from the front and the lush green hills from the rear. This is a special property in a coveted neighborhood, which is just minutes away from BART and SF freeways. Four spacious bedrooms, three and one half baths.

Dee Knowland
510.338.1318

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

www.DeKnowlandRealty.com

Pristine Jewel



Anne Gem

\$425,000
5638 Santa Cruz Ave

Perched at the top of a hill, this pristine sweetie shows pride of ownership and innovative use of space and materials.

Mary Canavan 510.848.1950 x212
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Properties

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Home Loan: \$500,000


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Monthly Payment

Loan Requirements:


- 5.113% APR
- 1 year Pre-payment Penalty
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- Rates & Terms subject to change without notice, 660 min FICO
- Equal Housing Lender
- Possible negative amortization



Alex Alexander
510-292-2020
2099 Pleasant Valley
Oakland



Vince Wirthman
510-504-5683
1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley



Gwen Hoopes
510-849-1320
2983 College Ave
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BERKELEY, CA 94705
PHONE: 510-849-9990

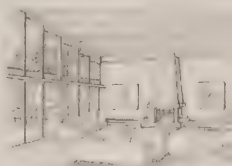
1099 PLEASANT VALLEY
OAKLAND, CA 94611
PHONE: 510-292-2000

www.redoakrealty.com

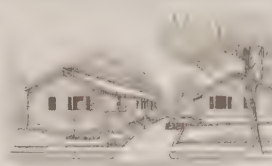
what you've sown.



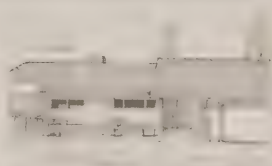
OAKLAND - NEW! \$599,000
5/4 - Fruitvale beauty! Old world beauty meets modern times in a classic row house in vibrant area near BART. Huge finished basement, great front & back yards.
3011 Logan Street Open 1-5



BERKELEY \$1,150,000
5/3 - Dramatic spaces! Remodeled kitchen & dining room; terraced landscaped gardens; floor-ceiling windows; decks; 2-car garage. More info at www.francinedipalma.com.
1410 Summit Road Open 2-4:30



BERKELEY \$795,000
FOURPLEX - Terrific fourplex in ideal location near BART, U.C. Berkeley, 4th Street shops and easy freeway access. All 1-bedroom units have hardwood floors & living rooms. Large lot!
2447 California Street Open 2-4



ALBANY \$899,000
4/3 - Contractor-built home in secluded setting, located on a cul-de-sac overlooking San Francisco Bay. Master suite with walk-in closet, stone fireplace, two full length decks, more
796 Hillside Avenue Open 1:30-4



OAKLAND \$579,000
LOFT - Rare 2,400 square foot loft with roll-up door and expansive mezzanine in historic 43 unit complex. Flexible floorplan includes 2 plus rooms. Visit: www.saragarabedian.com
730 29th Street #118 Open 2-4



BERKELEY \$525,000
2/1 - Charming Northbrae home close to Solano Avenue, the Gourmet Ghetto, Westbrae shops and North Berkeley BART station. Hardwood floors, designer colors, large level yard
1522 Ada Street Open 2-4



ALBANY \$579,000
2/1 - Very cute split-level MacGregor with hardwood floors, formal dining room, private garden, and artisan details throughout. Minutes to Solano shops, EC Plaza & transportation
404 Talbot Avenue Open 1:30-4



RICHMOND VIEW - NEW! \$449,000
2/1 - Must see! Charming with huge yard and deck, newly refinished hardwood floors, fireplace, sunny kitchen, formal dining room, attached garage, large park-like backyard
486 Key Boulevard Open 2-4:30



SAN LEANDRO \$699,000
3+2 - Located in prestigious Estudillo Estates. Charming hardwood floors, picture rail molding, large yard. Spacious, sun-filled rooms. Close to fine dining, shops & transportation
980 Bridge Road Open 1-4:30



BERKELEY \$499,000
2/1 - Charming Oceanview cottage in a great location close to 4th Street shops and restaurants. Sunny home, newly painted and ready! Lovely gardens
912 Page Street Open 2-4:30



ALBANY \$499,000
2/1 - Albany fixer - Excellent investor opportunity. Albany schools, access to Solano & Hopkins shopping. Potential for 2nd floor. Reports available
1012 Peralta Avenue Open 1-4



EL SOBRANTE \$649,000
4/2.5 - Spacious family compound with great separation of space, recreation room/office wing + extra studio. Private master suite with fireplace, 1/3 acre lot, swimming pool, spa
711 Renfrew Drive Open 1:30-4:30

SAN FRANCISCO \$619,000
1/1.5 - THIS IS IT! Totally remodeled loft south of Market with two story living/dining room, full wall of windows, granite counters in kitchen, slate tile baths, loft bedroom, MORE!
428 8th Street, Unit 102 Open 1-4

[may 22nd]

OAKLAND \$785,000
TRIPLEX - Owner user opportunity: 3 unit building currently rented as office space. Consider for investment or conversion to residential, live in one and rent two.

BERKELEY \$1,150,000
TRIPLEX - Rare Julia Morgan apartments. Brown shingle with coved ceilings, fireplaces, redwood throughout, hardwood floors, views, deck and surrounded by trees

RICHMOND \$538,000
3/2.5 - Affordable, stylish, quiet, clean. Recent construction with many upgrades, huge master suite, 2-car garage, low maintenance. Near shopping, transportation, more

BERKELEY \$679,000
2+1 - Sunny Monterey Colonial with large attic space. Basement, attached garage. Located near Solano and North Shattuck Avenues.

BERKELEY \$425,000
2/1 - Perfectly lovely Gourmet Ghetto cottage in 3-unit complex. Big deck, lots of windows, office/workshop. More at www.heidiandjerry.com

ALBANY \$485,000
2/1 - Beautiful condo with high ceilings, 2 decks, fireplace, hardwood floors, washer/dryer in unit, views of the East Bay hills

by appointment

RED OAK REALTY



Red Oak
REALTY



Red Oak
REALTY



3011 LOGAN STREET
OAKLAND

OPEN SUNDAY
MAY 22ND 1-5PM

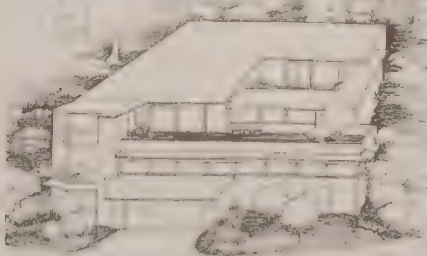
A FRUITVALE BEAUTY - Old world meets modern times! Wander through the rose trellised gate, sit on the wide front porch and sip lemonade, entertain in the formal dining room, barbecue on the big back deck, garden in the wonderful sunny yard, set up your in-laws or a home office in the finished basement. The possibilities are endless in this 5 bedroom 4 bath home, in a vibrant neighborhood close to BART.
LISTED AT \$599,000

Elizabeth McDonald, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-292-2003 EMAIL: elizabeth@redoakrealty.com

RED OAK REALTY

Berkeley Lot For Sale!



Build your home on Berkeley's historic Maybeck Twin Drive, just north of the UC Berkeley campus. Preliminary drawing illustrates a four level 3,000 sq. ft. home plus 850 sq. ft. bay view decks, plus an elevator. Call Marc to review drawing surveys, soil report, and scale model.

LISTED AT \$525,000

Marc Guay, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2103 EMAIL: marc@redoakrealty.com

RED OAK REALTY



Red Oak
REALTY

1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707



912 PAGE STREET, BERKELEY

A charming Oceanview cottage with two bedrooms and one bath. Lovely gardens, new touches, and great location.

LISTED AT \$499,000

OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22ND 2-4:30 PM

Pamela Manning, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2113 WEBSITE: www.gotmanning.com

Established
1976



Red Oak
REALTY

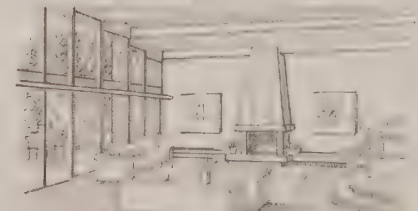
www.redoakrealty.com

1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707



RED OAK REALTY

Just Listed!



1410 SUMMIT ROAD, BERKELEY

Hidden from the street and offering maximum privacy, this is a special 5 bedroom, 3 bath home with a soaring ceiling, floor to ceiling windows, copper fireplace, handsome remodeled kitchen and dining room, and a commanding view of the Bay, Golden Gate Bridge and San Francisco.

LISTED AT \$1,150,000

OPEN SUNDAY MAY 22ND 2-4:30PM

Francine Di Palma, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2148 EMAIL: francine@redoakrealty.com

Sales

FROM PAGE B12

16800 Hannah Dr - \$559,000
 15588 Harbor Wy - \$725,000
 11110 Midway Av - \$450,000
 2008 Orchard Av - \$440,000
 2400 Sitka St - \$480,000
 1470 Thrush Av 24 - \$330,000
 387 W. B'moor Bl - \$531,500
 14771 Wyman Av - \$585,000

SAN LORENZO

16042 Silverleaf - \$675,000
 17660 Via Arriba - \$560,000
 15730 Via Colusa - \$550,000
 278 Via Mirlo - \$646,000
 17350 Via Segundo - \$590,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 14
 LOWEST PRICE: \$324,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$905,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$725,500
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$645,571

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 2
 LOWEST PRICE: \$500,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$516,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$508,000

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 20
 LOWEST PRICE: \$295,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,403,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$762,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$746,800

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$480,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$715,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$550,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$601,000

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 6
 LOWEST PRICE: \$329,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$660,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$485,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$497,667

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 14
 LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$680,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$470,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$448,464

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST PRICE: \$565,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,100,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$675,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$780,000

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 125
 LOWEST PRICE: \$125,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,300,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$445,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$498,912

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 2

LOWEST PRICE: \$1,150,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,250,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,200,000

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 44
 LOWEST PRICE: \$260,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$917,500
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$415,000

AVERAGE PRICE: \$455,307

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 20
 LOWEST PRICE: \$330,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$725,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$525,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$526,725

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$550,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$675,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$590,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$604,200

This list is provided by California Resource, a real estate information company that obtains the information from the County Recorder's office. Neither California Resource nor this newspaper guarantees the completeness or accuracy of the information. All questions should be directed to CalResource.

PLEASE RECYCLE

Millstein & Associates presents



Berkeley \$985,000
 Charming 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with remodeled kitchen & bath. Lovely level yard with large oak tree. Wonderful Thousand Oaks neighborhood. Close to Solano Avenue shops, theater, & restaurants. View of San Francisco from master bedroom.

1842 Thousand Oaks Blvd Sun 2-4
 Gene Millstein (510) 527-8822



Berkeley \$750,000
 Fabulous 50's view home designed by architect Jack Ely. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Living, dining, kitchen, & corner media space open onto a marine view deck. Woodland garden with fruit trees & vegetables. 2-room office w/ separate entrance.

165 Avenida Dr Open Sun 2-4:30
 Candace Hyde-Wang (510) 466-5444



Berkeley \$875,000
 Classic 1920 Prairie Craftsman. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Bennett Christopherson remodeled kitchen opens to level landscaped garden, very private & tranquil. Awesome studio in converted garage. Close to Solano Ave restaurants & shops.

957 The Alameda Open Sun 2-4
 Estelle Kent (510) 527-4447



Berkeley \$545,000
 Charming 1920's side-by-side duplex. 2 bedrooms each. One level living. Large, sunny yard. Detached 2-car garage. Close to shops, North Berkeley BART, & bus-lines. One unit is vacant. Open Sundays. May 22 & May 29.

2104 Acton St. Open Sun 2-4:30
 Arlene Acuna (510) 206-0793



Richmond Sold
 Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath home located on wonderful street in North & East neighborhoods. Tasteful updates & fine architectural details throughout.

654 32nd Street
 Listed at \$385,000. 25 offers!
 Sold far above asking price.
 Sheri Madden (510) 524-3840



Richmond View \$369,000
 Sweet 2+ bedroom, 1 bath home. Beautifully landscaped large level yard. Spacious living room. Wonderful home office. Many updates throughout.

701 Lassen St
 Coming soon.
 Open Sundays, June 5 & June 12
 Sheri Madden (510) 524-3840

(510) 527-8822

www.MillsteinAssociates.com

264 Arlington Avenue, Berkeley-Kensington 94707



WELLS & BENNETT REALTORS

1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND

(510) 531-7000

www.wellsandbennett.com

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00pm - 4:30pm

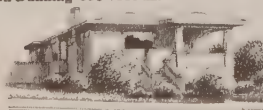
BY APPOINTMENT



1164 LAUREL \$1,335,000
Berkeley Hills. Make this gorgeous new house your own, 4BD/3BA, gourmet kitchen, grand open room for living and dining area. Fine finishes, lovely landscaping. Special location, must see!
 Carol Rabbiano 531-7000 x292



2422 BURLINGTON STREET \$675,000
Lincoln Heights. Classic, spacious 2+BD/2BA Mediterranean charmer w/family room/den. Wonderful, remodeled kit. & BA. Located on cul-de-sac in popular Mormon Temple area. Landscaped, level backyard.
 Don Dunning 531-7000 x239



3824 PARK BLVD. \$595,000
Glenview. 1st Open! Lovely 3BD/1+BA bungalow in desirable location. Formal entry, lg. living room w/fplc., dining room w/built-ins, recently painted interior, refinished hrwd. floors, partial basement & garage. Close to shops & transportation.
 Nancy and Chris 531-7000 x254



2715 RAWSON \$515,000
Maxwell Park. Spacious 3BD/1.5BA w/view of hills and bay! Refinished hardwood floors, living and dining room w/built-ins, gorgeous "retro" kitchen w/new flooring, remodeled bath, private yard w/patio, attached garage.
 Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228



2860 MODESTO \$499,000
Maxwell Park. Remodeled & charming 2BD/1BA, living room w/bay window & elegant fireplace, refinished hardwood floors, gorgeous designer kitchen w/granite counters & tile floors, garage converted into office & storage room, great yard.
 Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228



3036 B FULTON STREET \$495,000
Berkeley. Fabulous 2 bedroom condo with bonus sunrooms, loft, updated BA, gourmet kitchen and beautiful gardens. Close to shops, restaurants, Alta Bates, UCSB and BART!
 Beth DeAtley 531-7000 x234



2608 BEST AVENUE \$479,000
Maxwell Park. Charming 2BD/1BA w/bay view! Living room w/picture window and fireplace, dining room overlooking level yard, refinished random plank hardwood floors, updated kitchen, remodeled bath, spacious bdms., detached garage.
 Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228



6320 MAJESTIC AVENUE \$445,000
Millmont. Sparkling charmer w/South West feel. 2BD, updated BA. Roomy plus rm. on main floor. Updated kit. w/garden window, tile counters, laundry. Frml. din. rm., hrwd flrs, striking fireplace.
 Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246



GRACIOUS LIVING \$698,000
Glenview. Lovely 3+BD in Upper Glenview Sunny living room with bay windows, formal dining with built-ins. Plus room with partial bay view ideal for home office. Recently painted interior. Hardwood floors beautifully restored. Large basement area and 2 car attached garage. Close to shops and transportation.
 Nancy and Chris 531-7000 x254



SERENE RETREAT \$588,000
Crocker Highlands. Tranquil, light-filled bedroom, one bath home. Gracious living room with fireplace, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen. Sunny, park-like back yard.
 Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246

LAND

PRICE REDUCED-THORNDAL DRIVE \$788,000
 Four continuous Bay view properties to be sold together. Possible financing for two or three years.
 Gerald Cheney 531-7000 x287

NEW LISTING-LINCOLN HEIGHTS SUPER BAY VIEW LOT \$425,000
 Outstanding location near in the Oakland Hills. Utilities in street. Survey and soil report available.
 Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

NEW LISTING-MONTCLAIR \$230,000
 Just below Skyline Blvd. near Shepherd Canyon. Gentle upslope w/utilities in street. Sunny lot facing southwest. Area of \$1.5m+ homes. Possible view.
 Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MONTCLAIR LOT/BLDG PLANS \$199,000
 Includes SFR plans for 3300+ sq.ft. home. Utilities in street w/sunny canyon view. 11,700 sq.ft. lot.
 Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MONTCLAIR DOWNSLOPE-PRICED REDUCED \$175,000
 Just over 5000 sq.ft. Soil report and topo map available. Faces east-good sunny exposure. Zoned SFR.
 Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

PRICE REDUCED \$128,000
 Best Buy! Lauriston Court easy build up slope in the last quality area of Montclair. Possible financing.
 Gerald Cheney 531-7000 x287

INCOME PROPERTIES

LOCATION, LOCATION \$1,875,000
 Eight units in Chinatown. Six plex plus additional units.
 Near BART, low rents.
 Catherine Vallee 531-7000 x258

COMMERCIAL VICTORIAN \$1,000,000
 Edge of Jack London Square. Off Broadway. Excellent visibility to auto & pedestrian traffic. Near Oakland courthouse, OPD & transit. Large pane windows. Needs some finish work inside.
 Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MIX USE COMMERCIAL \$825,000
 Retail/office plus four residential units. Units deliver vacant. Great property for owner-occupied church group residential care facility. Office parking too.
 Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

WALNUT CREEK (925) 938-8484

LAKE TAHOE RENTAL/SALES (800) 858-2463 www.lahoerentals.com

GRUBB Co.



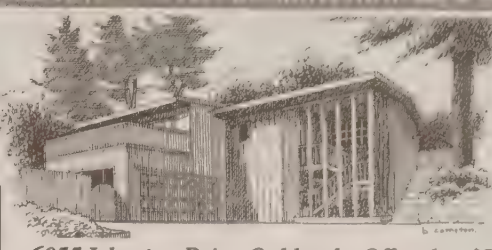
95 Westminister Drive, Claremont Pines
Offered at \$2,295,000
Open Sunday, May 22nd • 2-4:30

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GRUBBCO.COM

Visit GRUBBCO.COM for
Photo Tours of current listings.

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING - OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 22ND 2-5 PM




6055 Johnston Drive, Oakland ~ Offered at \$879,000
Enjoy hill views from this secluded cul-de-sac setting on the desirable Piedmont side of Montclair. Three-plus bedrooms, three baths, kitchen/family room and rumpus with fireplace.

Georgia Cornell
510.338.1325

www.pacunion.com

Strength does come in small packages.



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510.849.9900

COLLEGE AVE.
VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.MAISONNOUVEAU.COM

OLD WORLD CHARM

Open Sunday
May 22 ~ 2 to 5 pm

Elegant & sophisticated "San Francisco style" flats with vintage details intact, high ceilings, graceful arches, antique light fixtures, hardwood floors, fireplaces, terraced rear garden. Each unit includes formal dining room, breakfast room, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Located between Trestle Glen Road and Greenwood, this impressive 1920's duplex displays the architectural grandeur and fine workmanship of the era.

Spectacular Duplex
1100 Norwood Avenue






Robert Nongauza
510/834-2010 Office
510/835-6257 VM
510/459-3029 Cell

Dolores Thom
510/834-2010 Office
510/835-6080 VM
510/290-1218 Cell

www.DoloresThom.com

Prudential California Realty

FEATURED HOMES

 <p>Piedmont Contemporary \$2,100,000 4BR/2BA. Sophisticated one level Fabulous Patio + deck w/ views. Call Claire Cunningham (510) 428-0900</p>	 <p>Sunday 1-5PM \$1,200,000 1100 Norwood, Oakland. 1926 Duplex, SF Style flats, 2BD/1BA, FDR, Old World Charm! Dolores Thom (510) 834-2010 Robert Nongauza</p>	 <p>Sunday 2-5PM \$799,000 1005 Oxford, Berkeley. 3+BD/2 BA Hrdwd floor. FDR. Lg. lot, SF view! Very Berkeley! Candice/David (510) 868-1400</p>	 <p>Sunday 2-5PM \$699,000 625 Talbot, Albany. Remodel, gorgeous. Everything is new again, a #10! Lillie Braudy (510) 868-1400</p>	 <p>Sunday 2-5PM \$595,000 5916 Alhambra, Oakland. Charming Montclair 2BD/1BA. Great kitchen, yard + more. Rita Harrington (510) 845-0211</p>
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PIEDMONT

Sunday 2-4:30PM \$849,000
Cambridge Way. Sweet 3BR/2BA. Call Wisp, artist studio. (510) 339-9290

OAKLAND

Sunday 2-4:30PM \$925,000
Charming View. Charming 4BR/2 BA. Call BART & College Ave. (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4:30PM \$799,950
Call Shella Sabina (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4 PM \$680,000
Call Haddon 3 BD/2 BA craftsman, (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4:30 PM \$670,000
Call Haddon 3 BD/2 BA craftsman, (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-5 PM \$669,000
Call Haddon 3 BR/1 + BA. Monclair Hide-a-way, (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4:30 PM \$649,000
Call Haddon 4 BD/2 BA w/ views. Photos: (510) 428-0900

Sunday 1-5 PM \$625,000
Call Haddon 3 BR, 2 BA in tranquil (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-5 \$616,000
Call Haddon 3 BR, 2 BA in tranquil (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-5 \$616,000
Call Haddon 3 BR, 2 BA in tranquil (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-5 \$616,000
Call Haddon 3 BR, 2 BA in tranquil (510) 339-9290

ONE CLICK.



PruRealty.com

Receive daily emails on new listings for sale.

BERKELEY

Sunday 2-4 PM \$545,000
738 Neilson, Berkeley. Thousand Oaks Bungalow. Barbara Reynold (510) 868-1487

ALBANY

Sunday 1-4 PM \$529,000
510 Stannage Ave. 4 BR/3 BA. Fixer! Great potential. Sucheta Dhupelia (510) 868-1400

Sunday 2-4:30 PM \$499,000
1500 Visalia Ave., Albany. Lots of original detail. HW Floors. Warwick (510) 547-1077 (510) 868-1400

CASTRO VALLEY

Sunday 2-4 PM \$429,000
5568 Crow Canyon Rd. Fixer home on oversized lot. Creek in back. Mayling Trinh (510) 834-2010

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 1-5 PM \$1,900,000
1 Camino Del Cielo, Orinda. Views-Privacy-Luxury-New! R. Ousterman (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-5 PM \$878,000
1645 Julian Dr., El Cerrito. Spacious view home. 4/3, Lrg. Kit., Fam. rm., hot tub. M. Taussig/N. Cuttler (510) 845-0211

Sunday 12-3 PM
Crockett Charming. 1523 Pomona St. #1470 (510) 758-5637

RESIDENTIAL INCOME

Sunday 2-4:30 PM \$949,000
274 38th St., Oakland. 4Plex/charm/updates/garden/nr. shops & cafes Barbara McQuaid (510) 428-0900

Hillside Paradise \$3,800,000
Stunning Oakland executive 5/3.5 Estate. Designed to showcase San Francisco, Golden Gate, and Panoramic Bay Views. Gene Boomer (510) 339-9290

RESIDENTIAL INCOME

Sunday 2-4:30 PM \$945,000
1446 ML King Jr., North Berkeley. 10 BR Hse, Prev. Nurs. Home. Nr. Gourmet Ghetto, UC, Jurgen Aust (510) 540-5481

Sat & Sun 2-5 PM \$705,000
1840-44 62nd St., Berkeley. Golden duplex charms, big yard, details. 2+BR/1 BA. Wendy T. Louie (510) 868-1400

Sunday 2-4 PM \$450,000
1615 17th St., San Pablo Duplex 2/1 + 1/1, updated, lots of potential, yard! June McDaniels (510) 868-1483

Sunday 2-4:30 PM \$399,000
2661 23rd Ave., Oakland Duplex, 1/1 each, garage, Liv. rm., very clean. Scott Thompson (510) 428-0900

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Sashimi Boat Rest. \$160,000
Price reduced. Berkeley downtown, long lease, good business. Michael Wong (510) 527-9800

Looking for an exciting and challenging career?

FREE TRAINING

CALL KAREN 800-499-5551

House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first

Kelly Deal



1000 Galvin St., Oakland. Arts & Crafts 4bd/2ba bungalow in this popular Glenview district close to shops and transportation. Atrium, family room, garden, green house, decks and views. Offered at \$799,000

1336 Arlington Blvd., El Cerrito. Remarkable 4bd/4ba French Colonial Estate with elegant rooms and mahogany paneling. Great floor plan, 4 bedrooms upstairs, 3 car garage. Formal gardens on level lot. \$1,499,000

Kelly Deal
Office 899.8000
Ext. 311
Cell 510.484.4300
www.apr.com

Specializing in
Oakland and
Berkeley Hills and
Piedmont
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Interview

apr.com / Montclair Village/6116 La Salle Ave., 2nd Floor / 510.899.8000

2562 MONTANA STREET

2562 Montana Street

This charming Victorian has a 3 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom owners unit with high ceilings, pocket doors, large sunny kitchen, and view of the East Bay Hills. Below are two apartments, a one bedroom and a studio. The backyard is large and has a play structure.

DIMOND DISTRICT

OFFERED AT \$599,000

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostimes.com

Alameda			Alameda			Albany			Berkeley			El Cerrito		
\$699,000	456 Pacific	Duplex 2/1 each	\$738,000	186 Orr Rd.	3BD/2.5BA	\$699,000	625 Talbot	3+BD/2BA	\$795,000	545 Cragmont Avenue	-BD/-BA	\$878,000	1645 Julian Dr	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		Truyen The Dang	Sat & Sun 1-4	Bay Farm Island	510-755-4003	Sat 12-2, Sun 2-5		510-644-5262	Open Sun 2-4:30	The Grubb Co.	510-652-2133	Open Sun 2-5pm		510-652-2133
Centennial Real Estate			Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes		John Chang	Prudential		Lillie Brady	The Grubb Co.		Bebe McRae	Prudential		Nancy K...
\$325,000	218 Brush St. #1	3BD/1BA	\$739,000	100 Orr Road	3BD/2.5BA	\$699,000	625 Talbot Ave	3+BD/2BA	\$799,000	2447 California St	Duplex	\$1,795,000	1095 Arlington Boulevard	3BD/2BA
Sat/Sun 2-4	Woodstock	510-748-1108	Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Isle	510-814-4859	Sat 12-2; Sun 2-5		510-868-1400	Red Oak Realty		Izumi Tada	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-814-4859
Gallagher & Lindsey	Billi & Griselda Bissett		Harbor Bay Realty		Karen Wellman	Prudential		Lillie Brady	Red Oak Realty			The Grubb Co.		Ruth...
\$319,000	220 C Cypress St.	2 BD/1 BA	\$740,000	138 Norwich Rd.	3BD/2BA	\$759,000	828 Ramona	2BD/2BA	\$815,000	1618 Fairview St. Unit 6	-BD/-BA	\$549,000	711 Renfrew Dr	3BD/2BA
Sat/Sun 2-4	West End	510-814-4885 / 814-4800	Open Sat/Sun. 2-4		510-531-2274	OPEN 12-5 Sunday		510-527-8777	Coldwell Banker		Victor Ratto	Open Sun 1:30-4:30pm		510-527-8777
Harbor Bay Realty	Jeff Goodman / Janet Iverson		Kane & Assoc.		Wendy Sanda	Investment House Realty		Jeanne Yeh, Agt.	Coldwell Banker			Red Oak Realty		510-527-8777
\$339,000	965 Shorepoint Ct. 313	1BD/1.5BA	\$749,000	2620 Encinal Ave	Triplex	\$795,000	905 Ventura Ave	3+BD/2BA	\$825,000	751 Spruce St	3BD/2BA	\$550,000	1055 45th St	3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30	South Shore	510-814-4861	Open Sun 2-5pm		510-332-5635	Open Sun 2-4pm		510-524-9888x53	Berkeley Hills Realty		Denise Milburn	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-524-9888x53
Harbor Bay Realty	Susan Battaglia		ZipRealty		Julie Souza	Berkeley Hills Realty		Mary Lou Allen	Berkeley Hills Realty			Red Oak Realty		510-524-9888x53
\$369,000	325 Kitty Hawk Rd. #308	2BD/1BA	\$749,000	416 Santa Clara	3+BD/1.5BA	\$849,000	828 Cerrito Street	4BD/3BA	\$849,000	1749 Vine	4BD/2BD	\$569,000	3625 Adeline Avenue	3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4	South Shore	510-882-5232	Open Sat/Sun. 2-4:30		510-205-4369/205-3575	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-652-2133	Pacific Union GMAC		Leslie Easterday	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-652-2133
Harbor Bay Realty	Lena Sazo		Kane & Assoc.		D. Gunderman/A. Raszkopf	The Grubb Co.		Helene Barkin	Pacific Union GMAC			The Grubb Co.		510-652-2133
\$399,000	619 A Willow St.	2 BD/1 BA	\$785,000	1315 Grove St.	3+BD/2BA	\$899,000	796 Hillside Ave	4BD/3BA	\$875,000	957 The Alameda	3+BD/2BA	\$585,000	325 White Dr.	3BD/2BA
Sat/Sun 2-4	So. Shore	510-522-9600 / 814-4711	Sun 2-4		510-338-1335	Sun 1:30-4pm		510-280-2145	Open Sun 2-4pm		510-527-4447	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-527-4447
Harbor Bay Realty	Izabella Lipetski / Judy Jacobs		Pacific Union GMAC		Michelle Miller	Red Oak Realty		Virginia Jones	Millstein & Associates		Estelle Kent	Alameda Realty		510-527-4447
\$425,000	339 Broadway #302	2 BD/1 BA	\$785,000	2919 Fernside Blvd.	3BD/3BA	\$375,000	727 E. Military	2+BD/2BA	\$879,000	72 The Plaza Drive	3+BD/2.5BA	\$565,000	291 Rosseau St	3BD/2BA
Sat/Sun 2-4	East End	510-814-4832	Sun 2-4:30	Fernside Dist.	510-748-1162 / 748-2004	Sat 11-4pm		510-848-0110	The Grubb Co.		Katherine Cooper	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-848-0110
Harbor Bay Realty	Dania Alvarez-Morrell		Gallagher & Lindsey		Chih Wu / Kristin Jong	Help-U-Sell		Agent	The Grubb Co.		Karen Starr	Alameda Realty		510-848-0110
\$479,000	1611 Chapin Street	2+BD/1BA	\$795,000	1825 Pacific Ave.	5BD/2.5BA	\$410,000	1237 Carrison	2BD/2BA	\$929,000	450 Boynton Ave.	4bd/3ba	\$565,000	291 Rosseau St	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-523-9300	Sat & Sun 2-4		510-333-8997	Sun 2-4		510-486-1495	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-339-9290	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-339-9290
Realty World Martino Associates		Carol Martino	Alameda Realty		Eileen Walker	Coldwell Banker		Tania Balazs-Givshis	Prudential		David Otto	Prudential		David Otto
\$479,000	617 Pacific Ave.	2BD/1BA	\$799,000	23 Cork Road	4BD/2.5BA	\$475,000	2429 Russell St	2BD/1BA	\$945,000	1446 MLKing Jr Way	10BD/3.5BA	\$1,350,000	1036 Regatta Pt.	3BD/2BA
Sat/Sun 2-4	West End	510-748-1125	Open Sat. & Sun. 1-4pm		510-209-7070	Sun 2-4:30pm		510-527-9111	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-540-1584	Open Sun 2-5		510-540-1584
Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.		Troy Staten	Franklin Realty Group		Vincent Zing	Marvin Gardens		Barbara Kaplan	Prudential		Jurgen Aust	Coldwell Banker Azaria Berhane Callender		510-540-1584
\$529,500	1005 Verdemar Dr.	3 bd/2.5 ba	\$799,000	30 Sea Bridge	3 BD/2.5 BA	\$475,000	2429 Russell St	2BD/1BA	\$945,000	1446 MLKing Jr Way	10BD/3.5BA	\$1,350,000	1036 Regatta Pt.	3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4	Bay Farm Island	510-814-4818	Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Isle	510-814-4887/814-4848	Sun 2-4:30pm		510-527-9111	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-540-1584	Open Sun 2-5		510-540-1584
Harbor Bay Realty	Steve Cressy		Harbor Bay Realty		Alex Mak / Ringo Liu	Marvin Gardens		Barbara Kaplan	Prudential		Jurgen Aust	Coldwell Banker Azaria Berhane Callender		510-540-1584
\$535,000	1001 Shoreline Drive	2BD/2BA	\$799,000	92 Ratto Rd.	3BD/2BA	\$495,000	3036 B Fulton Street	-BD/-BA	\$965,000	641 Creston Road	3BD/2.5BA	\$569,000	3625 Adeline Avenue	3BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4		510-919-5485	Sat & Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Isle	510-814-4892	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		531-706 x228	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-652-2133	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-652-2133
Kane & Assoc.		John Bergman	Harbor Bay Realty		Eunice Edwards	Wells & Bennett Realtors		Beth Deatley	The Grubb Co.		Annie Walrand	Marvin Gardens		510-652-2133
\$539,000	1137 Pacific Avenue	2BD/1BA	\$799,000	23 Cork Road	4BD/2.5BA	\$499,000	912 Page St	2BD/1BA	\$985,000	1842 Thousand Oaks	4BD/2BA	\$569,000	257 Arlington Ave	3BD/2BA
Sat/Sun 2-4	Central	510-814-4713	Open Sat/Sun. 2-4		510-865-2776	Sat 11-4pm		510-848-0110	Open Sun 2-4pm		510-527-8822	Open Sun 1-4pm		510-527-8822
Harbor Bay Realty	Russ Grant		Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.		Billi & Griselda Bissett	Red Oak Realty		Pamela Manning	Millstein & Associates		Gene Millstein	ZipRealty		510-527-8822
\$540,000	420 Marshall Way	2BD/2.5BA	\$825,000	1007 Fair Oaks Ave.	4 BD/2.5 BA	\$525,000	1522 Ada St	2BD/1BA	\$995,000	20 Northgate Ave	3+BD/2.5BA	\$749,000	218 Purdue Avenue	3BD/2BA
Open Sat/Sun. 2-4		510-205-3389/610-5009	Sat/Sun 2-4		510-910-1443/410-6058	Sun 2-4pm		510-292-2038	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-339-0400	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-339-0400
Kane & Assoc.		L. Smith/S. Han	Harbor Bay Realty		Antoinette Bertolani / Darin Vinal	Red Oak Realty		Carrie McAllister	Berkeley Hills Realty		Jane Allen	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-524-9888x23
\$549,000	1018 Doris Court	2BD/1BA	\$850,000	1549 Bay Street	6BD/3BA	\$525,000	1932 Oregon St	2+BD/1BA	\$1,350,000	1410 Summit Rd	5BD/3BA	\$775,000	1519 Valley Rd.	3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4	East End	510-522-4449	Sun 2-4	Central Alameda.	510-301-4004/748-1158	Sun 2-4pm		510-847-0532	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-280-2148	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-280-2148
Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.		Kelko McDonah	Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.		Jim Nations / Tom Bennett	Marvin Gardens		Luanne Warner	Prudential		Francine Di Palma	Pacific Union GMAC		510-280-2148
\$578,000	1046 Fontana Dr.	3 BD/2.5 BA	\$850,000	2632-2034 San Jose Ave.	-BD/-BA	\$525,000	2129 5th Street	1+BD/1BA	\$1,335,000	1164 Laurel	4BD/3BA	\$790,000	4 Highgate Rd	3BD/2BA
Sun 1-5	Bay Farm Island	510-755-4003	Open Sat & Sun. 2-4		510-910-1443/410-6058	Sun 2-4:30		510-701-0230	Open Sun 2-4:30		531-700-2252	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-701-0230
Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes		John Chang	Kane & Assoc.		Uli Lirosl/Marie Kane	Pacific Union GMAC		Nancy Rothman	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-206-0793	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-206-0793
\$579,000	917 Centennial	2+BD/BA	\$898,500	633 Rock Isle	3 BD/2 BA	\$545,000	738 Neilson	2BD/1BA	\$1,330,000	2156 Ward St.	5BD/4BA	\$950,000	258 Amherst Ave	3BD/2BA
Open Sat/Sun. 2-4		510-865-2800	Sat/Sun 2-4	So. Shore	510-814-4817 / 814-4858	Sat & Sun 2-4:30pm		510-968-1487	Sun 2-4		510-486-1495	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-486-1495
Kane & Assoc.		Lisa Lawley	Harbor Bay Realty		Tim Marr / Brooke Abbasi	Prudential		Barbara Reynolds	Coldwell Banker		Kim & Barbara Marienthal	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-968-1487
\$595,000	2521 Clement Ave	2+BD/1.5BA	\$899,000	1631 Pearl Street	4BD/2.5BA	\$559,000	1502 5th St.	2+BD/1BA	\$1,495,000	880 Grizzly Peak	4BD/3.5BA	\$599,000	257 Arlington Ave	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-521-1611	Sat/Sun 2-4	East End	510-814-4871 / 814-4817	Sun 2-4:30		510-338-1347	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-339-0400	Open Sun 1-4pm		510-339-0400
Fortuna Realty		Fortuna Realty	Harbor Bay Realty		Denise Garvine / Tim Marr	Pacific Union GMAC		Rich Gould	The Grubb Co.		Hope Broderick	Marvin Gardens		510-339-0400
\$599,000	3547 Norman Ln.	3 BD/2.5 BA	\$1,350,000	216 Sweet Road	4BD/2.5BA	\$559,000	2144 Spaulding Avenue	2BD/1BA	\$1,625,000	1122 Besito Avenue	3BD/2.5BA	\$1,495,000	3266 Elva Street	3BD/2BA
Sat/Sun 2-4	Bay Farm Island	510-814-4710	Sat/Sun 1-4	Harbor Bay	510-523-4816	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-652-2133	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-338-1336	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-338-1336
Harbor Bay Realty	Walt Jacobs		Gallagher & Lindsey		Mario & Wendy M. / Joe LoParo	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-652-2133	The Grubb Co.		Bebe McRae	Alain Pinel Realtors		510-652-2133
\$609,000	1420 Ninth St.	3BD/2BA	\$1,550,000	3225 Fernside Bl.	-BD/-BA	\$585,000	2430 Acton Street	2+BD/1BA	\$1,850,000	7112 Marlborough Terrace	3bd/3.5ba	\$790,000	4 Highgate Rd	3BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30		510-523-0746	Open Sun 2-4		510-506-1215	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-652-2133	Prudential		Heldi Marchesotti	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-652-2133
Kane & Assoc.		Mindy Hart	Kane & Assoc.		John McHugh	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-652-2133	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-339-9290	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-339-9290
\$620,000	1217 Porta Ballena	2 BD/2.5 BA	\$2,300,000	19 Tuilamore Place	4 BD/3 BA	\$589,000	1569 Juanita Way	2BD/1+BA	\$\$\$	2104 Acton	Duplex	\$585,000	1909 Ascot Dr	3BD/2BA
Sat/Sun 2:30-4:30	Ballena Bay	510-814-4870	Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Isle	510-814-4813	The Grubb Co.		510-339-8900	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-206-0793	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-206-0793
Harbor Bay Realty	Pat Koutoufakis		Harbor Bay Realty		Richard Kim	The Grubb Co.		Susie Schevill	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		Arlene Acuna	Prudential		510-206-0793
\$635,000	913 Independence Dr.	2BD/2BA	\$2,500,000	221 Creedon Cir.	4+BD/4 BA	\$595,000	1217 Ordway Street	2BD/1BA	\$545,000	7249 Blake St.	3BD/1BA	\$315,000	455 Crescent St. Unit #315	3BD/1BA
Sat 2-4/Sun 2:30-4:30		510-814-4800/814-4814	Sun 2-4:30	Harbor Bay Isle	510-814-4885	C21 Heritage		510-486-1495	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-338-1336	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-338-1336
Harbor Bay Realty	Janet Iverson / Connie Hanna		Harbor Bay Realty		Jeff Goodman	Sun 2-4		510-486-1495	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-338-1336	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-338-1336
\$650,000	1611 Willow Street	2 Units	\$365,000	585 Pierce St #425	2BD/2BA	\$600,000	2232-34 Russell	Duplex	\$545,000	7249 Blake St.	3BD/1BA	\$315,000	455 Crescent St. Unit #315	3BD/1BA
Sat 2-4	Victorian Duplex	510-748-1158	Sun 1-4pm		510-848-0110	Sun 2-4pm		510-968-1400	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-338-1336	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-338-1336
Gallagher & Lindsey	Tom Bennett		Help-U-Sell		Agent	Prudential		Laura Margullus	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-338-1336	Open Sun 2-4:30pm		510-338-1336
\$668,000	510 Lagunaria Ln.	3BD/2.5BA	\$439,950	417 Evelyn Ave #206	2BD/2BA	\$625,000	1812 Chestnut St.	2BD/2BA	\$545,000	7249 Blake St.	3BD/1BA	\$315,000	455 Crescent St. Unit #315	3BD/1BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay	510-748-1164	Sun 2-4pm		510-701-1811	Open								

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urybeary@comcast.net **Broker Associate**

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

Oakland			Oakland			Oakland			Pinole		
1512 Willow St West Oakland Wayne Wilkerson	2BD/1BA 510-636-0606		4223 Howe St. Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC	2BD/1BA 510-338-1316 Joan Dark		7333 Sunkist Dr Sun 12-5pm Montclair Better Homes	2BD/1BA 510-899-6333 Ken Nwokedi		5757 Harbord Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Michelle Winchester	
1016-18 53rd St Sun 2-4pm Gloria Polanski	1BD/1BA 510-524-0800		730 29th St #118 Loft Red Oak Realty	1+BD/1BA 510-280-2195 Sara Garabedian		4137 Randolph Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Anne Feste		1100 Norwood Ave Sun 1-5pm Prudential	4BD/2BA 510-834-2010 Dolores Thom	
1702-26th Avenue Fruitvale Lindsey, Inc.	2BD/2BA 510-747-1621 Moon Tam		3632 Harbor View Ave. Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	3BD/-BA 510-339-4700 Nancy Maloney		5901 Leona Street Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	5BD/4BA 510-339-0400 Mary Merrick		676 Longridge Rd. Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	4BD/2.5BA 510-339-4700 Dian Hymer	
2250 Lakeshore Ave #1 Lake Merritt	2BD/2BA 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins		3733 Randolph Ave Sun 2-4:30pm Berkeley Hills Realty	2+BD/1BA 510-524-9888x19 Arlene Baxter		6666 Sobramte Rd Open Sun 2-4:30pm Montclair Better Homes	4BD/2.5BA 510-339-4280 Mary Jane		6261 Melville Drive Sun 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors	4BD/4BA 510-899-8000 Kelly Deal	
321 Warwick 202 Oakland Hills	2BD/-BA 510-339-4700 Victor Ratto		3824 Park Blvd Open Sun 2-4:30 Bennett Realtors	3BD/1+BA 531-7000 x254 Nancy and Chris		1701 Manzanita Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC	3BD/2.5BA 510-338-1305 Teri Carlisle		5800 Westover Dr Sun 2-5pm Help-U-Sell	3BD/3.5BA 510-848-0110 Agent	
808 31st St Oakland/Emeryville CP Yang/Mimi Falge	2+BD/1BA 510-534-2010		6916 Alhambra Ave Sun 2-5pm Prudential	2BD/1BA 510-986-84758 Rita Harrington		6055 Wood Dr. Open Sun 1-4 C21 Heritage	3BD/3BA 510-332-3921/510-338-0046 Azzarelli/Blogg		5351 Harbord Drive Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	3BD/2.5BA 510-339-4700 Darcy Diamantino	
1738 10th St West Oakland Better Homes	3BD/2.5BA 510-899-6305 Rosemary Greene		2562 Montana St. Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage	3BD/2BA 510-339-8900 x242 Victor Fierro		1000 Galvin Street Sun 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors	4BD/2BA 510-899-8000 Kelly Deal		6267 Ruthland Rd. Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	4BD/3.5BA 510-339-4700 David Eckert	
2611 23rd Ave Sun 2-4:30pm Scott T.	Duplex 510-428-0900		280 Parkview Terrace #400 Sun 2-4:30pm Prudential	2+BD/2BA 510-434-2010 'Mac' McCulloch		3301 Brunel Dr. Sat & Sun 1-4 RE/MAX Allied Brokers	4BD/2.5BA 925-323-2133 Rick		6050 Contra Costa Open 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC	4BD/3.5BA 510-338-1318 Dee Knowland	
5568 Crow Canyon Rd Sun 2-4:30pm Mayling Trinh	1BD/1BA 510-287-5764		3011 Logan St Sun 1-5pm Red Oak Realty	4BD/4BA 510-579-0104 Elizabeth McDonald		2675 Carlsbrook Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC	4BD/2BA 510-338-1341 Leslie Avant		5980 Glavin Dr. Open Sun 2-4:30 Richards Realty	3BD/2.5BA 925-372-3311 Bob Richards	
2233 Havenscourt Blvd Sun 2-4:30pm Tara Banks	2BD/1BA 510-759-9509		3202 Ettie St Sat 1-5 Sun 2-5 Prudential	3BD/3BA 510-882-2255 Wendy Kashiwa		379 Staten Ave Sun 2-4:30pm Montclair Better Homes	Duplex 510-339-4000 Arnold Mueller		110 Beechwood Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	5BD/5.5BA 510-339-0400 Sandra Vogl	
6320 Majestic Avenue Millmont Lindsey, Inc.	2BD/1BA 531-7006 x246		564 Forest Street Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Vicky Faulk		5850 Chabot Court Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	3BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Tricia Swift		95 Westminster Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4+BD/3+BA 510-339-0400 Debbi DiMaggio	
1350 E. 25th St Sun 2-4:30pm Heleen Mar	3+BD/1BA 510-435-7618		5918 Balboa Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	3BD/1.5BA 510-339-0400 Angela Wei Grubb		109 Starview Court Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	2BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Sherry Benninger		5952 Buena Vista Sun 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors	5+BD/4BA 510-899-8000 Kelly Deal	
8041 Wintrop St. Oakland Hills	1BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Victor Ratto		6615 Gunn Drive Open Sun 1-5 Prudential	3bd/2ba 510-339-9290 Erik Johnson		5991 Glenarms Drive Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	3BD/2.5BA 510-339-4700 Karen Lum		327 El Toyonal Open Sun 1-4 Prudential California Realty	3BD/2BA 925-255-5455 Nancy Marshall	
887 52nd St North Oakland Better Homes	2+BD/1BA 510-899-6323 Joe Ashton		3427 Guido Sun 2-5 Pacific Union GMAC	2BD/1BA 510-338-1368 Ashley O'Neill		2824 Burton Dr Sun 2-4:30pm Montclair Better Homes	4+BD/3.5BA 510-339-4565 Martha Shin		26 Claremont Ave. Open 1-4 Pacific Union GMAC	4BD/2BA 925-899-6583/339-1918 Rich Jones/Dana Green	
3315 Deering Sun 2-4:30pm Tara Banks	2BD/1BA 510-759-9509		3536 Victor Sun 2-5 Pacific Union GMAC	3BD/2BA 510-338-1354 Jennie A. Flanagan		4340 Turner Ave. Sun 2-5 Pacific Union GMAC	3+BD/3BA 510-338-1334 Vicki Woodhead		630 Tahos Road Sun 1-4 Pacific Union GMAC	4BD/3BA 925-339-2169 x6209 Nancy Rothman	
6800 Arthur St. Sun 2-4:30pm Antonia "Ivoni" Robinson	2BD/1.5BA 510-339-4700		611 Cleveland St. Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors	3+BD/1.5BA 510-899-8000 Sarah Schisler		4515 Harbord Sun 2-4:30 Duplex Rockridge Pacific Union GMAC	-BD/-BA 510-338-1318 Dee Knowland		1 Camino Del Cielo Open Sun 1-5pm Prudential	4BD/3.5BA 510-428-0900 Roberta Ousterman	
3041 Suter Street Lower Diamond Lindsey, Inc.	2BD/1BA 510-435-7618 Kurt Jacobsen		2032 Clemens Rd Sun 2-4:30pm Montclair Better Homes	2+BD/2.5BA 510-482-9000 Patricia Bennett		631 & 633 Alcatraz Avenue Open Sun 1-5 Lawton Associates	4BD/3BA 510-547-5970 x63 Keith Sjolholm		6390 Wood Dr Sun 2-4:30pm Montclair Better Homes	2BD/2BA 510-339-4280 Mary Jane	
2608 Best Avenue Maxwell Park Lindsey, Inc.	2BD/1BA 531-7000 x228 Kate Phillips		3918 Greenwood Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	2+BD/1.5BA 510-339-0400 Jill Carrigan		8211 Skyline Blvd Open Sun 1:30-4:30 Allegro RE Services	4BD/3BA 510-538-0776 Barbara Fields		6055 Johnston Dr. Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC	3+BD/3BA 510-338-1364 Cindy Houts	
2660 Modesto Maxwell Park Lindsey, Inc.	2BD/1BA 531-7000 x228 Kate Phillips		5956 Zinn Dr Sun 2-4:30pm Prudential	3+BD/1+BA 510-428-0900 Bryan Salomone		96 Sonia Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge Pacific Union GMAC	4BD/3BA 510-338-1366 Joanna Hirsch		5757 Balmoral Drive Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	5BD/3+BA 510-339-0400 Adam Betta	
672 32nd St. Central CA Realty	3 BD/1+BA 510-909-6871 Desiray R. McFall		5505 Moraga Ave Sun 2-4:30pm Prudential	3BD/2.5BA 510-428-0900 Kathy Dittmer		25 Wood Court Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	2+BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Elizabeth Dickson		5860 Ocean View Sun 2-4:30pm Rockridge	4BD/2BA 510-428-0900 Glass-Sabine	
3703 Wisconsin St. Sun 2-4:30pm Jill	2BD/2BA 510-336-9999		2422 Burlington Street Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC	3+BD/2BA 510-780-2554 Nancy and Chris		208-212 Orange Sun 2-4:30 Adams Point - 3 Units	-BD/-BA 510-339-4700 Antonia "Noni" Robinson		172 Mountain Ave. Open sun. 2-4:30 Prudential	4BD/2.5BA 510-339-2920 George Millions	
2715 Rawson Maxwell Park Lindsey, Inc.	3BD/1.5BA 531-7000 x228 Kate Phillips		525 Spruce St Sun 2-4pm Prudential	3BD/2BA 510-334-2010 Roxanne Wong		6471 Ascot Sun 2-5 Piedmont Pines Pacific Union GMAC	3+BD/2.5BA 510-338-1343 Kathleen Callahan		7 Tyson Circle Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC	5BD/4BA 510-338-1312 Martha Holtsland	
1012 Galvin St Sun 2-4:30pm Tami Bobb	2+BD/1+BA 510-339-9290		3800 Patterson Sat & Sun 1-5pm Montclair Better Homes	4BD/3.5BA 510-899-6331 Antoinette Radwan		274 38th St Piedmont Ave Prudential	4+plex 510-428-0900 Barbara McQuaid		206 Mountain Ave. Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	3BD/2BA 510-339-4700 Dian Hymer	
3757 Lundholm Duplex Rosie Nysaether	2BD/1BA 510-339-4567		5370 Bryant Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	2BD/1BA 510-339-0400 Sandra Vogl		6050 Zinn Dr. Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC	4+BD/3BA 510-338-1308 Dick Cohen		190 Sandringham Road Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4BD/4+BA 510-339-0400 Erika Celestre	
4024 Altamont Ave. Sun 2-4:30pm Jill	3BD/2BA 510-336-9999		6230 Ruthland Rd. Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Nader Davari		5725 5th Open Sun 2-4pm Homes-Link	3BD/2BA 510-748-5300 Robert Neumann		111 Estates Dr Open Sun 2-5pm Prudential	5BD/6BA 510-428-0900 Claire & David	
127 Ironwood Mercury Heights Pacific Union GMAC	3BD/2.5BA 510-338-1310 Robin Mohr		3760 Malcolm Ave Sun 2-4:30pm Montclair Better Homes	4BD/2.5BA 510-812-6699 Lisa Hardy		3250 Crane Way Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	3BD/-BA 510-339-4700 Nancy Dickey		561 Blair Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	4+BD/3.5BA 510-339-0400 Nancy Lehrkind	
6042 Leona St. Rockridge Better Homes	3BD/-BA 510-339-4700 Victor Ratto		3250 Crane Way Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	3BD/-BA 510-339-4700 Nancy Dickey		1836 Magellan Drive Open 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors	3BD/2.5BA 510-899-8000 Hal & Kate Castella		125 Hillside Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC	5+BD/4+BA 510-338-1325 Georgia Cornell	
18784 Eagle Ct. Lindsey, Inc.	3 BD/2.5 BA 510-522-4449 Kelio McDonald		1836 Magellan Drive Open 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors	3BD/2.5BA 510-899-8000 Hal & Kate Castella		10 El Patio Sun 2-4:30pm Montclair Better Homes	2+BD/2.5BA 510-339-4550 Nahid Nassiri		50 Sotelo Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	5BD/4.5BA 510-339-0400 Linda McClain	
2312-14 Fruitvale Ave Duplex Lindsey, Inc.	1BD/1BA 510-530-4991 Mo Khatibi								1 King Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	5BD/-BA 510-339-0400 J. Simmons/A. Tunney	

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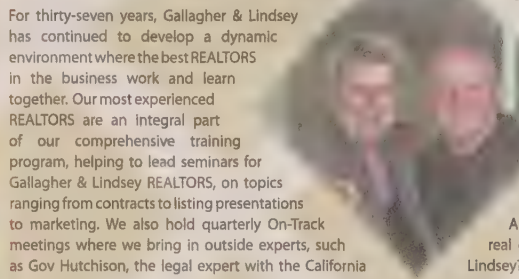
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Neighborhood Focus: BALLENA BAY

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Rolando and Coqui Basora are working with a very motivated client that is re-locating to Alameda for work. Pre-approved for \$900,000, Rolando and Coqui's client is looking for a contemporary 3 bdrm/2 bath home with a family room and a yard. They would love a home on the water with a dock. If you know of a property that fits this description and may be for sale soon, please contact Rolando and Coqui at (510) 748-1166.

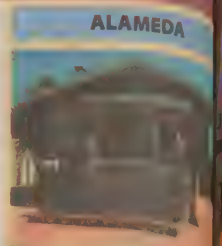


Rolando & Coqui have a buyer for you!

Disclaimer: Sales data compiled from ERSI using Alameda Map 2000 for single family residential sales in 2004. This information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. It is not intended to be used for any other purpose.

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Berkeley falls against De La Salle late in NCS match

PREP LACROSSE

press time.

Berkeley ended its season at 13-7.

No. 5-seeded De La Salle trailed No. 4 Berkeley 6-5, before scoring four times in a span of 3 minutes, 22 seconds late in the third quarter and early in the fourth quarter.

The last two goals were scored by Spartans senior midfielder Mike Mullarkey.

Berkeley led 5-4 at halftime but scored just once in the second half.

Sophomore midfielder Patrick Wilhelmy scored four goals for De La Salle and assisted Mullarkey's second goal, which was the final one of the game with 10:09 left in the fourth quarter.

It was the second time in the last week the Spartans and Yellow Jackets have played each other. Berkeley won the Diablo Valley Lacrosse League championship over De La Salle last Thursday.

"Since we lost to them last week, we just wanted it extremely bad," Wilhelmy said.

Wilhelmy scored three times

in the first half.

Tyler Hester also added two goals for the Spartans.

Dan Feutz and Erik Lyneis each scored two goals for the Yellow Jackets.

Berkeley 9, De La Salle 8: Lyneis scored an unassisted goal with just one second left in the DVLL championship game to break a tie and give Berkeley a victory over host De La Salle on May 12.

It's the second year in a row that Berkeley has won the league championship and an automatic berth in the North Coast Section playoffs. The Yellow Jackets beat

the Spartans (13-6) for the DVLL title last year.

After a timeout with eight seconds left on the clock, Lyneis took the ball, drove through the De La Salle defense and fired the winning shot with just one second left.

"It just somehow went in," a nearly speechless Lyneis said.

De La Salle beat Berkeley in similar fashion earlier in the season with only two seconds remaining.

"We're two fairly evenly matched teams," De La Salle coach Bob O'Meara said. "They play really well. They play good defense so it's low-scoring.

They're just evenly matched."

Berkeley coach Mike Costanzo said the Yellow Jackets and Spartans have developed a good rivalry because of the close results.

"Every single time, it's so nerve-racking," he said. "You know it's going to come down to the fourth quarter and who has the ball (last)."

Lyneis led the Yellow Jackets with three goals and teammate Mikel Parraga-Wills scored twice.

Wilhelmy and Hester each scored three goals for the Spartans. Wilhelmy also had two assists.

LOCAL NOTEBOOK

Hornets helping in community

By Robert Jordan
STAFF WRITER

THE Alameda High School baseball team took a break from Alameda County's Costa Athletic League Saturday to help out some kids in the community. For the third consecutive year, the Hornets held their annual Olympics baseball clinic at Lincoln Park in Alameda.

The idea of third-year coach Jennifer and his brother, Jennifer, the clinic was Jennifer's way to show the community his gratitude for their support.

"I was really amazed how supportive the community was. Last year we had brand new uniforms, practice hats, jerseys. You name it, we had it," said Ken Arnerich.

The teams are supported by local businesses. "I want the kids to appreciate the fact that if it wasn't for the community, we wouldn't have this."

"I really want to take money and wanted to show the community we are going to help the community any way we can."

That way just happened. The Special Olympics clinic.

Arnerich got the idea from Val, who ran a similar clinic coaching at Santa Clara.

He knows five people have been where he got the idea.

See ACCAL, Page 2

LOCAL NOTEBOOK

Piedmont's youth prevails

By Dave Carpenter
STAFF WRITER

WINNING a regular season league championship does not mean the same success in a tournament league tournament.

The St. Mary's High boys' and girls' track and field teams.

The Panthers had the best records in Bay Shore League duals, but each lost in the league championships in Piedmont.

The most Highlanders swept the boys' and girls' competition. The Panthers had to settle for a share of the league title.

At 31 events, Piedmont's overall record, including three by distance runner Mark St. Mary's won three, girls distance runner Liana Rohlhoff-Sotelo. The Holy Spirit girls won six events to St. Mary's for second.

Piedmont's overall record allowed it to rack up wins on the boys' side and the girls.

"I thought we had a good Piedmont coach," Oregon said. "We shuffled personnel and we had good people have good days. It was a classic combination of."

See BSAL, Page 2



ST. MARY'S Dom Calegari hits an approach shot at the NCS Tournament of Champions at Rooster Run Golf Course in Petaluma. Calegari shot an 8-over-par 80.

Gauchos fall in volleyball playoffs

■ Mistakes are costly to El Cerrito as Clayton Valley sweeps first-round NCS Class I match

By Jennifer Starks
STAFF WRITER

After challenging in the opening two games, the El Cerrito High School boys' volleyball team simply couldn't keep up in the third game and ended its season with a 26-24, 25-21, 25-17 loss to Clayton Valley in the first round of the North Coast Section Class I playoffs in Concord on Tuesday.

El Cerrito (19-11) took a 3-2 early lead in the third game on a kill by Don Miguel Tutass but couldn't hold the momentum. Clayton Valley began passing the ball effectively and looking for its heavy hitters, Mark Jackman and Colter Natrass, and that spelled trouble for the Gauchos.

Setter Christian Rojas set up Skye Peterson with a back set, and Peterson found a gap in the Gauchos defense for an 18-11 lead. Jackman then connected on

PREP ROUNDUP

one of his team-high 17 kills to put the Eagles up 19-11.

"Our mistakes really hurt us," El Cerrito coach Fred Gonzalez said. "We weren't consistent with our passing, especially in the third game. We left open spaces on defense, and that's what killed us."

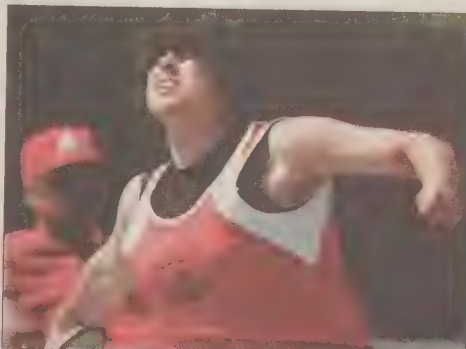
Tutass paced the Gauchos with 13 kills and three blocks. Robert Duffala added four kills and two blocks, while Vincent Yang finished with four kills.

BASEBALL

St. Mary's 11, St. Elizabeth 1: The visiting Panthers (15-7, 10-4 Bay Shore Athletic League at press time) received three RBI from Spencer Winton and two RBI from J.D. Pierce as they took an 8-0 lead after three innings in this five-inning game Tuesday.

St. Mary's 8, Piedmont 0: Pierce fired a two-hitter and hit three doubles to lead the host Panthers past the Highlanders on Monday.

Albany 17, Kennedy 1: The Cougars (12-6-1, 9-3 BSAL at



ALBANY HIGH'S Rebecca Molinari won the discus at the BSAL championship meet with a throw of 117 feet, 2 inches.

press time) scored seven runs in the top of the first inning in this five-inning game Monday. Carlton Studeman was 3-for-4 with two runs and two RBI, including a two-run home run, for Albany.

Berkeley 8, Hercules 0: Delancy Baker and Mike Durant each had two hits for the host

Yellow Jackets in their victory Friday.

El Cerrito 11, Richmond 1: Doug Murray pitched a two-hitter over six innings and allowed no earned runs and had nine strikeouts in the win for visiting El Cerrito (18-4, 9-3 ACCAL at press time) on Friday.

John Swett 11, St. Mary's 1: The host Indians never trailed, and they broke open a 2-1 game with eight runs in the fourth inning of Friday's five-inning game. Dave McGuinness and Marcus Semien had two hits for St. Mary's.

Salesian 4, Albany 0: The visiting Cougars fell behind 3-0 in the first inning Friday and didn't recover against the Chieftains.

BOYS' GOLF

NCS Tournament of Champions: Albany's Adam Barkow, St. Mary's Dom Calegari and Robin Saulsbury and Berkeley's John Hasse were the local individuals who competed Monday at Rooster Run Golf Course in Petaluma.

Barkow shot a 7-over-par 79, Calegari had a score of 80, Hasse shot 81 and Saulsbury had a score of 83. Ryan Collins of Acacales and Daniel Cone of Campolindo tied for the low score with 74.

TRACK AND FIELD

ACCAL championships: Local competitors won a number of

See PREP, Page 2

ALBANY/BERKELEY GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RESULTS THROUGH MAY 15

Micro division

Andronico's Blue Jays vs. Autumn Press Stars Blue Jays: Darcy Miller, Hana Minsky and Lia Renauer all had solid hits. Andronico Blue Jay pitcher Jazzmyr Nevarez hit a hard line drive and exhibited some excellent fielding while on the mound. Andronico Blue Jay Lisa Simpson had a big hit in the first inning and displayed characteristic hustle while baserunning and fielding. For the Stars, Sydney Hersh had a big day at the plate, hitting two fly balls and a grounder, all into left field. Stars Georgia Seitzer and Cara Chinn each had solid infield hits. Lee Labov was a Star defensive standout, stopping a hard grounder at shortstop and making two unassisted putouts at first base.

Jane Hammond Events Green Gators vs. Andronico's Blue Jays: Blue Jays Rose Micallef, Tayah Black, and Jordan Hanson each had

two infield hits. Blue Jay Maria Barkhurst had two unassisted putouts and two hits. Blue Jays Lindsey Wiser and Raleigh Williams each had a pair of singles.

Jane Hammond Events Green Gators vs. Autumn Press Stars: Star Bonnie Coulman hit a solid line drive to center field. The Gators' Erin Cain, Clare Bogle, Kate Thomsen and Hanna Erdmann all hit singles. Gator Zelle Anner picked up a grounder and threw it to first base for an out. Gator Talia Rogers had two base hits. Gator Bailey Kobelin fielded a grounder and threw to first base for the out.

Madeline Lawrence got a base hit and brought in a Gator run. Gator Derby Gill got a base hit to bring in Rogers. Gator pitcher Gabrielle Meacham played great defense on the mound.

Younger division

Friedman-Bueggemeyer Cougars 18, Dr. Brehman's Tooth-

less Tigers 5: Tigers Annelise Albert-Hall and Megan Foley had solid base hits in the first inning. The Cougars got their first double play ever when pitcher Nora Killian threw to Reyna Fa-Kaji at first base. Tiger Jessica Reed made a great defensive play at third base and also drove in a run. The Tigers' Madeleine Jones and Lia Jansen had solid hits. Tiger Faith Valdez recorded two outs at third base. Cougars Anna Barcellos, Gemma Hunt, Julia Foster, Nora Killian and Ariana Nevarez all scored.

Tiger Jansen continued her hitting with a solid single in the top of the fourth inning. Cougar Nevarez gave a great effort in both batting and fielding. A good hit by Cougar Madeleine Pauker drove in the final run.

Vivian Lopez Vipers 12, Five Little Monkeys Demons 10: The only thing more stellar than the weather was Demontor Claire Simpson's unassisted triple play. Simpson caught a pop fly with the bases loaded, quickly

stepped on third base for two outs then alertly tagged a stray runner for the last out to end the second inning.

Vipers pitcher Sammie Chiang and first baseman Sydney Sturgeon handled the ball for all three outs in the first inning. Natalie Burns kicked off a four-run Viper rally with a solid hit. In the third, the Demons almost reprised their triple play on a pop fly to third base: Abbie Ulrick made a great catch, but all runners were safe in the ensuing play. Third base was the hot defensive corner in this game: Demontor Emily Wise recorded outs on two plays with quick fielding there, and Emily Cain also had a heads-up play there. Demontor Emma Steinhilber delivered sharp hits. Steinhilber also controlled sharply-hit balls on consecutive plays in the field. Viper Sofia DiBenedetto led off the third and fourth innings with base hits. Demontors Lena Mayer and Serena Witherspoon hit hard line drives. The Vipers received two unassisted outs at home

plate in the fourth, one each from Liana Rohlhoff-McKenzie and Colleen Hamilton-Lecky.

On the Beam Leopards 20, Zooming Zonta Zebras 7: Julia Shebek played well both offensively and defensively. In the top of the first inning, the Zooming Zonta Zebras' Mira Weimer and Margaret English had key putouts at second base and first base, respectively. In the second, impressive team plays by Zooming Zonta Zebra pitcher Alejandra Zeiger and catcher English saved at least two runs.

Hannah Schoenberger did an excellent job stopping base runners at first. In the fourth inning, Zooming Zonta Zebra batters Alondra Franco and Jasmine Masten had solid hits and Kyra Traynor recorded a key unassisted out at first base.

The Leopards played great offense and defense. Nia Willis hit strong singles and handled two critical outs at

See SOFTBALL, Page 2

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	Bishop O'Dowd	21-0	Defeated Hayward and Tennyson last week by combined score of 28-3
2.	Amador Valley	19-1	Dons squared off with Cal twice this week
3.	California	18-3	Grizzlies had won four straight this week
4.	De La Salle	17-4	Spartans had won nine in a row entering this week
5.	Clayton Valley	18-4	Eagles need a lot of help to take BVAL title from De La Salle
6.	Monte Vista	15-5-1	Granada stuns Mustangs, all but ending EBAL title hopes
7.	Campolindo	17-4	Cougars entered this week needing another win for first league title since 2000
T8.	Livermore	15-8	Was edged 1-0 by Amador Valley on Friday
T8.	Head-Royce	17-0	Jayhawks still perfect entering last week of the season
10.	Miramonte	18-4	Loss to Northgate all but ends Matadors' DFAL title hopes

Others receiving votes: Acalanes (17-5), Salesian (16-8). The prep baseball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is compiled by the staff of Contra Costa Newspapers. Results are through Saturday.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	Freedom	18-4	Has inside track toward fourth straight BVAL title
2.	Alameda	18-3	Likely the No. 1 seed for the NCS 2A East Bay playoffs
3.	Monte Vista	17-3	Could clinch its first EBAL title since 1988
4.	Foothill	16-5	Allowed just six runs in first three EBAL losses
5.	Newark Memorial	20-3	Cougars began MVAL playoffs this week
6.	Livermore	15-6	Joelle Goodman records perfect game vs. Amador Valley
7.	Carondelet	15-5	Rebounds from loss to Freedom to blow out Liberty
8.	Concord	15-3	Won five straight entering this week to jump back into DFAL title chase
9.	Alhambra	18-4	Allows Miramonte only three hits in 11-0 win
10.	San Leandro	17-4	Pirates upset Castro Valley to take control of HAAL

Others receiving votes: San Ramon Valley (15-6), St. Patrick (21-1). The prep softball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is voted on by the staff of Contra Costa Newspapers. Records are through Saturday.

Prep

FROM PAGE 1

events at Hercules on Saturday. Berkeley's boys 400-meter relay team won its event in 44.02 seconds. El Cerrito's Erik Howard took first in the boys shot put (54 feet, 7 inches) and also won the discus (142-9).

Berkeley's boys team finished third with 84 points and El Cerrito was fourth (54).

In girls competition, Berkeley's Jere Summers won both the shot put (42-2) and discus (117-9½). Teammate Lindsay

Roach took first in the 400 (59.46). Berkeley's Michelle Miller was first in the long jump (16-1¼).

Berkeley's girls team was third with 85 total points, and El Cerrito was fourth (30).

BSAL championships: Albany's duo of Donnie Phelps and Jermaine Slaughter each won a BSAL title in the boys competition at Piedmont. Phelps won the shot put (45-6½) and Slaughter won the discus (129-6½). Albany finished second in team scoring with 66 points. St. Mary's was third with 63½ points.

In girls competition, St.

Mary's Gabriela Rios-Sotelo won the 1,600 (5:07.06) and 3,200 (11:11.26). Albany's Rebecca Molinari won the BSAL title in the discus (117-2) and St. Mary's Hana Shirrel was first in the shot put (34-2).

SOFTBALL
St. Mary's 15, St. Elizabeth 4: The host Panthers (15-5, 12-4 BSAL at press time) received three hits from both Paige Freiberger and Arriel Sherman in the seven-inning game Tuesday.

Staff writer Phil Jensen contributed to this roundup.

Anasna Ridley, Alex Hickey whacked a double in the fourth. The Platypus defense was just as spectacular. Pitcher Annie Smith rolled up her sleeves in the second, delivering three strikeouts. Quick thinking from Platypus McCue resulted in a fourth-inning double play.

Older division

San Marco Slammmers 9, Dart Vend Bumpless Bears 5: The Slammmers were backed by the combination of Abby Ridley-Kerr — who had a home run, triple and three RBI — and the pitching of Shelby LaRosa, who faced 10 batters in three innings. Slammmers catcher Katie Atkinson controlled the game behind the plate, along with a great defensive game by the whole Slammmers team. Dart Vend was led by Zoe Pollock's RBI single and Isabel Hubbard's aggressive steal of home. Christina Sechak swatted a nice line-drive single.

Adobe Black Magic 2, Counterforce Lightning 1: The Black Magic eked out a narrow victory in a pitchers' duel that hung in the balance until the bottom of the sixth inning. The unfappable Lightning pitching duo of Adrian Gebhart and Adriana Stevens held Black Magic to a single run through five innings.

The Black Magic's Lily Moryash caught a towering fly and catcher Hanna Morris fired a throw to first to hold the Lightning scoreless in the second. Morris cleanly fielded a bunt in the fourth, holding Lightning slugger Giselle Moreno at third and pegging the batter. The Lightning's Kalla Wilkey's single drove Moreno home and tied the score. The Lightning's flawless first baseman, Johanna Heyer, denied Black Magic scoring opportunities with both assisted and unassisted putouts. But Magician Corey Chin was unstoppable, scoring both Magic runs after smashing two shots deep to left. In the final inning, Magic third base coach and pitcher Elizabeth Tuley — who struck out five batters — called a bunt and run, putting Chin in position to score from second

on an errant pitch for a dramatic end to one of the best games of the season.

Sweet Potatoes Peelsers 12, Tullip Hardwood Belt Sanders 3: A quick start by the Sweet Potatoes Peelsers led to a victory. In the top of the second inning, Sonya Schoenberger scored on a bases-loaded walk to Emma Rotem. Schoenberger advanced into scoring position by a timely Zoe Fiddler hit. Solid defensive work by Katie Tick in the second and fourth innings, coupled with solid pitching, prevented the Peelsers from scoring in the fourth. Jacobs-Pontecorvo scored the Belt Sanders' first run in the third inning with some heads-up base running. Belt Sander Emma Riley followed suit by stealing her way around the bases to score the final Belt Sanders run. The Peelsers' offense was led by Erin Dickerhoff's two sharp singles, each driving in a run. Fiona Riley got the game off to a great start for the Peelsers by allowing only one run over the first two innings in a gutsy pitching performance. Peeler Kelsey Murakami finished the game throwing two perfect innings. Murakami also helped the Peelsers with a RBI single.

ON DECK

Prep baseball

■ **El Cerrito at Berkeley, 3:30 p.m. today** — This may very well be the championship game of the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League. The Gauchos trailed league-leading Berkeley by one game entering this week.

■ **St. Mary's at Albany, 3:30 p.m. today** — Both teams could use a win in a bid for a North Coast Sec-

tion at-large berth.

Prep softball

■ **Albany vs. St. Mary's, at Oceanview 3:30 p.m. today** — This game could have NCS at-large bid implications for both teams.

Prep swimming

■ **North Coast Section championships, at Clarke Memorial Swim Center, Walnut Creek, 10:30 a.m.**

ACCAL

FROM PAGE 1

idea and I never did ask him where he got the idea," Ken Americh said. "I don't know where he got it. But when he told me he said to get in touch with the Special Olympics."

He did, and the first year the Hornets had 20 to 25 participants. The second year it grew to 35 to 40 campers, and this year there were about 50 to 60 campers.

The Hornets spent the day stretching with the athletes, tossing fly balls and grounders and playing a softball game. It ended with a barbecue.

"The Special Olympic athletes look up to our players and it is just a win-win situation," Ken Americh said. "It kind of puts everything into perspective on how fortunate (our

players) are."

Not a bad way to prep for the final week of ACCAL play, which ends today with a home game against rival Encinal.

TIEBREAKER MADE EASY: There is a possibility for a three-way tie in the ACCAL baseball standings after games are concluded today.

At press time, Berkeley led the ACCAL with a 10-2 record. El Cerrito and Encinal were one game back with 9-3 records.

If the three teams won their first games this week, then El Cerrito beats Berkeley and Encinal beats Alameda today, there will be a three-way tie for first place. All three teams will be co-league champions, but the league only gets one automatic berth in the NCS playoffs.

That berth would be decided by a tiebreaker. The tiebreaker

today and Saturday — Most high school swimmers will be competing for section titles in the events this weekend.

Prep track and field

■ **NCS Bay Shore area field championships, at James Logan** — This track and field athletes meet in Union City. Field events will start at 11 a.m.; track events begin

is head-to-head results. El Cerrito would win the tiebreaker because it would have a record against Berkeley. Encinal this league season. Berkeley would have a record against Encinal. El Cerrito, and Encinal would have a 1-3 record against Cerrito and Berkeley.

If only Berkeley and El Cerrito are tied for first place in the final league game, the tiebreaker will be the NCS automatic bid because El Cerrito would have swept the tiebreaker. Jackets this league season.

Berkeley holds its own its hands, however. If the low Jackets win their final league games this season, they will win the outright ACCAL title and the NCS automatic playoff berth.

Staff writer Phil Jensen contributed to this notebook.

BSAL

FROM PAGE 1

us having a really good day and others having an off day."

Piedmont's boys topped second-place Albany by 65 points. The girls competition was much closer. Holy Names had 107 points and St. Mary's 98. Lollie Onipede was the only multiple winner for the Monarchs, taking the 100- and 200-meter dashes.

The top four finishers from each event qualified for Saturday's North Coast Section Bay Shore championships, this Saturday at James Logan High School. It is an NCS qualifier. The meet starts at 11 a.m.

CHILLIN' BY THE POOL: Well, not exactly. The NCS swimming championships start today at the Clarke Memorial Swim Center in Walnut Creek.

Today's trials and Saturday's finals start at 10:30 a.m. Swimmers from Albany, Holy Names, John Swett, Piedmont, St. Joseph, St. Mary's, St. Patrick and Salesian represent the BSAL.

INTERESTING RACES: Rainouts have made the BSAL baseball and softball standings a confusing mess.

However, that has not taken anything away from some tight races at or near the top of the standings.

In baseball, Salesian started

off the week with a 12-2 record and a two-game lead over John Swett and St. Mary's. Albany also has hung in tough with a 9-4 mark entering the week.

In softball, St. Patrick entered the final week of the regular season with just one loss, which came May 2 against Piedmont. The Highlanders are not even a real factor in the race for the BSAL title.

Salesian improved to 13-3 in the BSAL after Tuesday's 15-0 win over St. Joseph. St. Mary's upped its league record to 12-4 after its 15-4 victory over St. Elizabeth.

Seven of the 10 teams in the BSAL are in Class A.

Although Piedmont is in fifth place, it is one of just three 2A East Bay teams in the BSAL. Albany and Kennedy are the others. The Highlanders improved to 11-5 on Tuesday and a three-game lead over the Cougars and 8½ over the Ea-

gles. That should give them a solid shot at a 2A off spot.

NOT GOING TO MONTEBELLO: No BSAL golfer was able to qualify for the California scholastic Federation North Regionals.

Albany's Adam Blahnik all BSAL golfers by shooting a 7-over par 79 in the tournament of Champions at Petaluma's Rooster Course.

The highest score in the regional was a 10-over par 84.

Softball

FROM PAGE 1

second base. Aya Newman also had solid hits and, as pitcher, she made the final out of the game with a critical throw to home plate.

Middle division

Prins Chiropractic Bulldogs 10, Red Oak Realty Rascals 4: The game was closer than the score indicates. The Rascals led off with strong at-bats, including base hits by Gillian Sweeney and Katy Robinson, followed by Lena Nitsan and Brooke Tannahill's RBI singles for a 2-0 lead.

Cory Labov started things off for the Bulldogs in the bottom of the first with a double in the gap. RBI singles by Olivia Duncan, Katie Lyons and Kate Moore, plus some aggressive baserunning by Anna Moore, put three runs on the board for the Bulldogs. The second inning featured Bulldogs defensive plays by third baseman Julie Moorad and pitcher Lindsey Baker, and an amazing catch by Rascal shortstop Kiana Walker. The Bulldogs added two more runs in the second, but the Rascals came back in the third on Jordan Baker's two-run single to make the score 5-4. The Bulldogs pushed a run across in the third, and strung together seven consecutive singles for four runs in the fourth. There were many bright spots on the Rascals' defense, including several strikeouts by Rascal starter Baker, a gutsy relief effort by Nitsan and a fine catch by Meg McCabe at second base to end the game.

Berkeley Orthodox Wicked Wires 2, Nolo Pickle Express 0: This was a squeaker to the end: the Wires and the Pickle Express played hard and consistent. With Wire Alexandra Spencer-Wong on the mound for the first inning, Pickle Sarah Essex singled but was left on base by Wire Staci Apodaca's two unassisted putouts at first. The Pickle Express bullpen had a combined five strikeouts by Shayna Weimer, Marielle Cohen, Samantha Abkin and Zohi Slack. The second inning started with Wire Spencer-Wong's putout with an assist by Maya Bail-Burack at first. The great play continued with a beautiful double by Pickle Cohen, followed by Pickle Jenna Guffy's hard pop-up that was caught by Wire Kyle Daniels at shortstop. Pickle Jenna Guffy caught Wire Sarah Haynes' pop-up in the second.

The third inning went quickly thanks to Wire hurler Siobhan Bauer and great fielding and putouts by Sofia Cullen at first. The Pickle Express followed with Essex's amazing catch of a pop-up by Daniels, and her rifle to first to catch Wire Laurel Wee off-guard after she had singled to first. Facing the game time limit, the Wires came through with two hard singles by Spencer-Wong and Grace Geller. This set the table for slugger Bauer, whose two-run triple won the game.

Alliance Graphics Platypus 10, Arkin Tilt Terminators 3: Arkin Tilt's offense featured powerful singles by Elise Hartinger (who later slid into home for a run) and Nina Magnuson, and doubles by Ashley LaRosa, Samantha Burnell and Boothe Carlson. LaRosa and Carlson each stole third base. On defense, first baseman Jane Huff fielded a shot and stepped on the base for an out. Pitcher Kenia Cobb threw her magic and had a strikeout in the third inning. First baseman Monica Wiemels caught a ball that was deftly fielded by LaRosa for an out in the fourth. The Platypus were strong on offense with singles by Jillian Jenkins, Emily Weidemann, Cristina McCue, Dinora Murota, Niki Sinclair and

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NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

BOX CARS BY JIM PAGE / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 Gub, e.g.

5 July 1944 battle site

9 Tiny-cared rodent

13 Answer sharply

19 (Hawaii) swimming gold medalist Kristin

20 Bud

21 Kind of surgeon

22 Harem guard

23 Hanging site (Buck)

26 Fur, hot spot

27 Info on a bus card

28 Having "I" problems?

30 It has floor leaders: Abbr.

31 Not very high marks

32 Knee-slapper

33 William Browne poem "___ as Fair as Ever Saw the North"

35 Punctual (Dodge)

40 Enclaves

42 Singer Monseette

43 Prefix with red

46 Bagel type

49 Kind of position

50 There's one for every year

52 Practically nothing

54 Senes ender

55 Toiletary item

56 Blood and guts

57 Elected superior

59 Raisins or nuts

60 Council of ___ 1545-63

62 Parenthetical information

64 Sorority letter

65 Latin 101 word

68 Lake electrical signals in the body (Toyota)

70 Many, many moons

71 N.Y.C. division

72 Subjects of some sea tales

73 Things that are picked

75 Farm young

77 Best

78 Sumner

79 Old Italian bread

83 "Comus" composer

84 Michaels and others

85 Of the moon

87 Mountain air

88 Politely decline

90 Memory units

91 Spowicz's partner on "NYPD Blue"

92 Things from faraway places

95 Large carvings (Ford)

98 "Beyond the Sea" singer, 1960

DOWN

1 Some jazz

2 "Take ___ from me"

3 Hankering

4 1930's film dog

5 Shows for critics

6 Bloggers' arena

7 Subject of the film biography "The Immortal Count"

8 Medical suffix

9 River connected by canal to the Don

10 Lunchbox desserts

11 Chief city of ancient Thessaly

12 Paris landmark

13 Big match

14 Lion

15 Chemical suffix

16 Records (Hyundai)

17 Sunda targets

18 Feudal baron

24 Straighten out

25 Dracula, for one

29 Sing-song syllable

34 Stopped lying

35 Unbalanced

36 Olive genus

37 Like a certain govt

38 Pass

39 Greedy cry

41 W.W. II craft: Abbr.

44 Lake bell-bottoms (Jeep)

45 Nonconformists

47 Harry-chested

48 "The Magic Kingdom" novelist

50 Pitcher's gift

51 Humonist Ward

52 Not serious

53 Science of the ear

56 It might make the hair blond

58 Visa fig

59 Dry

61 Lens holders

62 How bitter enemies speak

63 ___ City, Pla., NE of Tampa

65 Popular 1990's sitcom from England, informally

66 Dickie of "Our Gang"

67 Citrus dessert bits (Ford)

69 Saatch

74 Certain replay

76 Successor to Clement VIII

78 El ___

80 "American ___"

81 1990's Haitian president Preval

82 Bass offerings

84 Behind

86 Court figures

87 Winner's cry

89 Dipped dishes

90 Lennon/ McCartney song whose title words follow "They'll be glad, you're not ..."

91 Cover completely

93 "This ___ surprise!"

94 High-crowned cap worn in Turkey and Iran

96 Indian name for Mount Ranier

97 Bringer of good news, perhaps

98 Russian villa

99 Author Nin

101 Not clean

102 Period flavoring

106 Holiday

108 Try to put baby to sleep, maybe

109 Politico Bayh

110 Sampler

112 B train?

114 Kitchen meas

115 Young

Reviews

FROM PAGE C3

as the noir comic books by Frank Miller it is adapted from. So visually exciting that you can't turn away, even when all that's happening on-screen is the relentless reduction of skull and brain matter into pulp. So cool it could almost give you frostbite. Star-studded, but also deliberately offensive, pointless and emotionally hollow; it's about nothing at all, serving only as a celebration of violence. — M. Pols. (R: extreme violence, language, sexuality.) 2 hours, 6 minutes. B-

"STAR WARS: EPISODE III — REVENGE OF THE SITH": To see George Lucas finally knit together his six-part "Star Wars" saga is an unexpectedly moving experience. He's still clumsy in the human interaction department and Anakin Skywalker's (Hayden Christensen) transition to the dark side is a little quick, but we feel it. May be too sad and disturbing for youngsters. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sci-fi violence, intense images.) 2 hours, 20 minutes. B

"UNLEASHED": Jet Li plays Danny, a Chinese man raised to be a loan shark's Rottweiler. Bob Hoskins is Bart, the thug who raised Danny, who is kept in a cage, and conditioned to be at peace when he wears a collar, at war when he takes it off. Then Danny meets an aged blind piano

tuner (Morgan Freeman at his sweetest). When Danny is accidentally freed, the tuner takes him in, no questions asked. — R. Moore. (R: strong violent content, language, some sexuality/nudity.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. B

"THE UPSIDE OF ANGER": A meandering tale of a middle-aged woman (Joan Allen) deserted by her longtime husband, leaving her with four daughters, a bottomless bottle of gin and a major case of rage. Written by Mike Binder as a valentine to the always magnificent Allen, but he seems to have a better grip on his male characters than his women. The real love letter is to Kevin Costner, who plays her rumpled new love interest and does his best work in years. — M. Pols. (R: language, sexual situations, brief comic violence, some drug use.) 1 hour, 58 minutes. B-

"3-IRON": Jae Hee plays Tae-suk, who travels around an unnamed city on a motorcycle. He hangs fliers on doorknobs, and if they remain after a day or so, he breaks into the house and makes himself at home. While the residents are away, he eats their food and amuses himself with their gadgets, but also does their laundry, fixes broken items and otherwise tries to earn his meager keep. At one pricey address, he encounters the battered lady of the house. Initially spooked, he flees, but returns to rescue her. — B. Strauss. (R: violence, sex, language; in Korean with subti-

ties.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. B

"WATERMARKS": Yaron Zilberman's heartwarming documentary covers a lot of territory, but it's the emotional terrain that counts, as he locates a group of champion women swimmers and persuades six of them to return to swim together in a magnificent indoor pool in Vienna for the first time in 65 years. All are now in their 80s; all were members of the Hakoah, a renowned Viennese sports club; and all had to flee after Hitler annexed Austria. — K. Thomas. (Not rated: crude humor, language.) 1 hour, 24 minutes. B+

"XXX: STATE OF THE UNION": Ice Cube fills in for Vin Diesel in the next installment of the "XXX" franchise about a National Security Agency program that recruits the baddest of bad boys for the baddest of assignments. It's as preposterously plotted and outrageously combustible as the

2002 original, so action fans will come away with their fire-and-brimstone quotient well-sated. Samuel L. Jackson reprises his role as the man in charge at XXX headquarters, and Willem Dafoe is a traitor intent on taking over the presidency. — D. Germain. (R: sequences of intense action violence, some language.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. C-

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The Dining Guide

Legend: \$ rating is average dinner entrée price
AEAmerican ExpressEntrées under \$7
CBCarte Blanche\$7 - \$14
DCDiners Club\$15 - \$20
DSDiscover Card\$20+
MCMasterCard
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ACAll Cards accepted
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Sushi House
2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999
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CBCarte Blanche\$7 - \$14
DCDiners Club\$15 - \$20
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Events

"Local Band Night" with Bandalam, The Annoyances, The Heist, May 21.

The Sick, The Hyper Kids, No Nothing Party, Shield Your Eyes, May 27.

Circu Mutante, Guire Doodate and Pin-cushion Protaya, May 28.

Mind Eraser, Say Goodbye, May 29, 5 p.m. \$6.

\$5 unless noted. Shows start Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. unless noted. 924 Gilman St., Berkeley. 510-525-9926 or www.924gilman.org

ALBATROSS PUB — Whiskey Brothers, Ongoing. Old-time and bluegrass. First and third Wednesdays of every month. Free.

Fred Randolph Jazz Trio, May 28, 8 p.m. \$3. Shows begin Wednesday, 9 p.m., Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless noted.

1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2473 or www.albatrosspub.com.

ASHKENAZ — Los Bros, May 20, 9:30 p.m. \$11 general; \$9 students.

West African Highlife Band, May 21, 9:30 p.m. African dance lesson at 9 p.m. \$13 general; \$11 students.

"Flamenco Open Stage" with Stephanie Neira and Grupo Sabores de Espana, La Miri and Students, May 22, 7:30 p.m. \$10.

"Kids' Show" with Gary Lapow, May 22, 3 p.m. \$6 general; \$4 children; free for children under age 1.

Sauce Piquante, May 24, 8:30 p.m. Cajun dance lesson at 8 p.m. \$9.

Jug Free America, May 25, 8:30 p.m. \$9.

"Benefit for the Family of George Robinson of 'George and the Wonders,'" May 26, 9:30 p.m. \$10 to \$20.

"African-Soukous Dance Party" with Afro-Muzika, May 27, 9:30 p.m. African dance lesson at 9 p.m. \$13 general; \$11 students.

Johnny Otis Living Tribute Band, May 28, 9 p.m. \$12 general; \$10 students.

Select shows offer \$2 off regular admission for students. 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com.

CAL PERFORMANCES — Perfor-

mances in Zellerbach Hall unless noted.

Audra McDonald, May 27, 8 p.m. The Tony Award-winning vocalist and her quartet perform a program of Broadway standards and new compositions. \$32 to \$88.

Kurt Elling, May 28, 8 p.m. The jazz vocalist and his trio perform a concert of standards and original compositions. \$18 to \$32.

University of California, Bancroft Way at Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-642-9888 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

DOWNTOWN RESTAURANT — The Ben Adams Trio, May 20.

The Judy Wexler Quintet, May 21.

Brian Kane, May 24.

The Ned Boynton Trio, May 25.

Jeremy Cohen and Dean Riley, May 26.

Shanna Carlson Quartet, May 27.

The Julie Kelly Quartet, May 28.

Free unless noted Tuesday through Thursday, 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. 2102 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-649-3810 or www.downtownrestaurant.com.

FREIGHT AND SALVAGE — Patty

Larkin, Deb Pasternak, May 20. \$20.50 to \$21.50.

Nerissa Nields, Kyle England, May 21. \$18.50 to \$19.50.

Loudon Wainwright III, Bart Davenport, May 22. \$22.50 to \$23.50.

"Clarinet Thing," May 24. Performances by Beth Custer, Ralph Carney, Ben Goldberg, Sheldon Brown and Harvey Wainapel. \$17.50 to \$18.50.

Penny Lang and the Echo Hunters, May 25. \$17.50 to \$18.50.

King Wilkie, May 26. \$17.50 to \$18.50.

Edging from Ohio, May 27. \$19.50 to \$20.50.

The Bobs, Clockwork, May 28. \$19.50 to \$20.50.

Music starts at 8 p.m. unless noted. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley.

510-548-1761 or www.freightandsalvage.org.

HILLSIDE CLUB — "A Kika Vechirka," May 25, 8 p.m. An evening of Slavic music and cuisine featuring the Bay Area women's vocal ensemble Kika. \$50. 510-444-0323 or www.kika.org.

2286 Cedar St., Berkeley.

JAZZSCHOOL — Dick Hindman Trio,

May 13 through May 27. Fridays through May.

Sheldon Brown Group, May 21.

Greta Matassa and Mimi Fox, May 22. \$15.

See EVENTS, Page C6

Obituaries and In Memoriam

Edith Bain Bolman

Edith Bain Bolman, who during a long, happy life actively participated in the growth of her loving family as well as the Western United States, was 99 when she died on May 4 in Walnut Creek.

Born in San Francisco during the 1906 earthquake, she amazed her two daughters Gay Stern of Santa Rosa and Sylvia Fones, Piedmont, and their families and friends with tales of being moved from San Francisco through what is now San Jose and the south bay area into the Bain family home in Piedmont during the chaos and destruction following the April 18 quake.

Edith's early years were spent in Piedmont and she attended Hazen Elementary School before her family moved to Oregon. She graduated from the University of Oregon in 1927, where she was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

With degree in hand, she was able to travel extensively in Europe and the Orient and worked in Shanghai in the 1930s when that city was the center of China's rapidly expanding trade with the western world.

On her return home to the United States she stopped off in Honolulu, Hawaii where she met Robert Bolman and in January of 1937 Edith and Robert were married in Pasadena.

Her husband died in March 2003 ending their 66 years of married life, a true partnership blending family, friends and community service with his successful banking career.

Their first stop was Pasadena where she was a member of the Assistance League. After a move to Orinda, Edith wrote a column for the Orinda Sun and told her daughters, with great pride, that her compensation for her work was contributed to the East Bay Children's Hospital. She was also a board member of the Woman's Board of the Oakland Museum, the California College of Arts and perfected her bridge and golf games as a member of the Orinda Country Club.

During subsequent moves to San Francisco, Palm Desert, Pebble Beach and to the Claremont Country Club, Mrs. Bolman pursued her interests in the arts, traveled extensively with her husband, and was active in several local museum boards. Her club memberships included the Claremont Country Club, her uncle Fred Bain had been an earlier member. Monterey Peninsula Golf Club, Abrego in Monterey, Marrakesh Golf Club in Palm Desert and the Franciscan Club in San Francisco. In 1987 the Bolmans moved to Rossmore.

Mrs. Bolman is survived by their two daughters, their husbands, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Daughter Sylvia will host a private celebration of her mother's life and her love for her family on Sunday, May 22 for the family and several longtime friends.

Memorial contributions in her name may be made to the Oakland Museum Woman's Board, PO Box 11605, Oakland, CA 94611.

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Events

FROM PAGE C5

Wil Blades Trio, May 28. \$12 to \$15.
Victor Mendoza, May 29. \$20.

\$12 to \$18 unless noted. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 4:30 p.m. unless noted. 2087 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-845-5373 or www.jazzschool.com.

LA PEÑA CULTURAL CENTER — Kid Beyond, May 22, 7:30 p.m. \$15 to \$25.
"Chile's Canto Nuevo," May 28, 8 p.m. Original songs by singer/songwriter Jose Saves and instrumentalist Elizabeth Morris. \$12.

3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568 or www.lapena.org.

PARAMOUNT THEATRE — New Edition, Brian McKnight, May 28, 8 p.m. \$39.50 to \$85.50.

Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 510-465-6400, (415) 421-8497 or www.paramounttheatre.com or www.ticketmaster.com.

STARRY PLOUGH PUB — The Starry Irish Music Session led by Shay Black, Ongoing. Sundays, 8 p.m. Sliding scale.

Morning Line, The Cowlicks, Joe Rathbone, May 20. \$6.

Old-Time Music Hour, Mercury Dimes, Wrangletown, Amy and Karen, May 21. \$7.

Mirror Image, Send for Help, May 26. \$5.

Two Foot Yard, Plays Monk, May 27. \$7.
Boom Bip, The Fog, Rapatron, May 28. \$8.

For ages 21 and over unless noted. Sunday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless noted. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082 or www.starryplough-pub.com.

YOSHI'S — Bill Evans Soulgrass with Bela Fleck, Vinnie Colaiuta, Jimmy Haslip and Darol Anger, May 19 through May 22. \$15 to \$26 general; \$5 children for Sunday matinee.

Northgate High School Jazz Groups, May 23. \$10.

Flutology, May 24. \$10 to \$16

Anthony Wilson Nonet, May 25. \$10 to \$16.

Gary Burton Generations Band featuring Julian Lage, May 26 through May 29.

\$12 to \$22 general; \$5 children for Sunday matinee.

Shows are Monday through Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., unless noted. 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland. 510-238-9200 or www.yoshis.com.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

CALVIN SIMMONS THEATRE — Great Wall Youth Orchestra and Chorus, May 28, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The orchestra of young musicians and singers perform music from around the world on traditional Chinese instruments. This concert celebrates their 10th anniversary. \$5 to \$25. www.purplesilk.org.

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF OAKLAND — "Oakland Youth Orchestra Spring Concert," May 22, 7:30 p.m. Michael Morgan conducts the orchestra of young music students in a program of works by Tchaikovsky, Wagner, Bloch and Pei Kun Xi. \$12 general; \$8 students and seniors. 510-832-7710 or www.oyo.org.

2501 Harrison St., Oakland.

OAKLAND EAST BAY SYMPHONY — Leonard Bernstein's "Mass: A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players and Dancers," May 20 and May 22. A multimedia work fusing march music, blues, gospel, Gregorian chant, Latin-American music and jazz, and set to text from the Roman Mass. The symphony will be

joined by the Oakland Symphony Chorus, Piedmont Choirs and the Huckabee McAllister Dance Company. Friday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. \$25 to \$65.

Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 510-625-8497, (415) 421-8497 or www.oebis.org.

OAKLAND METRO — "White Darkness," May 12 through May 22. A performance by the Oakland Opera, featuring a score by Tom Dean after Prokofiev's "Fiery Angel." Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. \$24 to \$32 general; \$18 to \$25 students and seniors.

www.oaklandopera.org.
201 Broadway, Jack London Square, Oakland. 510-763-1146, (415) 608-1116,

510-763-1146 or <http://www.oakland-metro.org>.

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF BERKELEY — American Bach Soloists, May 21, 8 p.m. This Choral Series program, titled "Sonic Tapestries," features works by Byrd, Durufle, Part, Poulenc, Purcell, Tallis and Taverner. \$20 to \$30. (415) 621-7900 or www.americanbach.org.

2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN CHURCH — The Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble, Triskala Harp Trio, The Pleiades Ensemble, May 28, 2 p.m. A concert of harp music from around the world. \$15 general; \$5 students and seniors. 510-548-3326 or www.california.com/~mcmf/fo-harps.html.

2005 Berryman St., Berkeley.

TRINITY CHAMBER CONCERTS — "Voce e Violini," May 21, 8 p.m. Soprano Jessica Gould, harpsichordist

Jonathan Davis and a baroque ensemble perform 17th- and 18th-century music.

See EVENTS, Page C6.



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Events

FROM PAGE C6

\$12 general; \$8 seniors, disabled persons and students. Trinity Chapel, 2320 Dana St., Berkeley. 510-549-3864 or www.trinitychamberconcerts.com.

DANCE

ASHKENAZ — West African Highlife Band, May 21, 9:30 p.m. African dance lesson at 9 p.m. \$13 general; \$11 students.

"Flamenco Open Stage" with Stephanie Neira and Grupo Sabores de Espana, La Mini and Students, May 22, 7:30 p.m. \$10.

Sauce Piquante, May 24, 8:30 p.m. Cajun dance lesson at 8 p.m. \$9.

"African-Soukous Dance Party" with Afro-Muzika, May 27, 9:30 p.m. African dance lesson at 9 p.m. \$13 general; \$11 students.

Select shows offer \$2 off regular admission for students. 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com.

JULIA MORGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS — Berkeley Ballet Theater, May 20 through May 22. "Barre to Bravura" features classical and modern ballet pieces performed by students of all ages. Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. \$18 general; \$14 children.

"Las Buenas Flamenquitas," May 28,

8 p.m. Azahar Dance Foundation presents a performance by young Bay Area flamenco dancers of works from the classical flamenco repertoire, accompanied by professional singers and musicians. \$17 general; \$10 children ages 5 to 12. (925) 798-1300.

Shakti Dance Company, May 29, 6:30 p.m. Mythili Prakash performs "The Dance Eternal," a solo performance of the classical Indian dance form Bharata Natyam. \$15 to \$20. (925) 798-1300.

2640 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-8542 or www.juliamorgan.org.

OAKLAND ASIAN CULTURAL CENTER — Chitresh Das Dance Company, May 21, 8 p.m. The dance company performs North Indian

Kathak dance. Part of the 2005 Asian Pacific American Heritage Festival. \$15 to \$18. 510-637-0464.

Free. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 388 Ninth St., Suite 290, Oakland. 510-637-0455 or www.oacc.cc.

SHATTUCK DOWN LOW — "Live Salsa," Ongoing. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. A live salsa band plays with beginning lessons at 8 p.m. and intermediate lessons at 8:45 p.m. \$10 general; \$5 students.

For ages 21 and older. 2284 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-1159 or www.shattuckdownlow.com.

STARRY PLOUGH PUB — "Ceili and Dance," Ongoing. Traditional Irish music and dance. Mondays; dance lesson at 7 p.m., music at 9 p.m. Free.

For ages 21 and over unless noted. Sunday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 8:30 p.m. unless noted. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082 or www.starryploughpub.com.

EXHIBITS

ACCI GALLERY — "Homecoming," May 12 through June 3. An retrospective exhibit of works by Kay Sekimachi and Bob Stocksdale.

"La Familia," May 12 through June 3. An exhibit of past and current ceramic works by local father and son potters.

Free. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2527 or www.accigallery.com.

ALAMEDA ART CENTER — CLOSING — "Aquarele," May 6 through May 26. An exhibit of works in water media by Bay Area artist Mira White.

Free. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. 1701 Webster St., Alameda. 510-748-7888 or www.alamedartcenter.org.

BANCROFT LIBRARY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY — "Chinese in California, 1850-1925: Between Two Worlds," April 1 through May 31. This exhibit exploring the Chinese experience in California beginning during the Gold Rush era includes paintings, photographs and oral history. THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON MAY 30. 510-643-5651.

Free. Monday through Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley.

http://bancroft.berkeley.edu.

BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY, CENTRAL BRANCH — CLOSING — "Overcoming Faceless Labor: Farmworkers Through the Lens of Almodena Ortiz," March 21 through May 23. A photography exhibit in the First Floor Catalog Lobby.

Free. Monday and Tuesday, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 2080 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100 or www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

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On DVDs

Pacino carries dark 'Merchant'

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

Al Pacino plays Shylock, the Jewish money-lender from 16th century Venice in this complex rendering of William Shakespeare's dark play. This film adaptation focuses less on the love aspects of the original text and chooses instead to deal with anti-Semitism, hatred and revenge.

There are no heroes here, just complex characters who are wronged and in turn, wrong others. Pacino is his typical somber, masterful self and he rescues some of his co-stars from bouts with over-the-top, summer stock-style acting. While long, "Merchant" grows stronger with each passing scene and by the middle you'll be hooked. The dialog is in Elizabethan English iambic pentameter, making it perfect for high school students studying the Bard, but too confusing for anyone under 14. (R: nudity). 2 hours and 11 minutes.

Ratings (out of 4 stars):

Overall: 3 stars

Kids: 1 star

Teens: 2 stars

Adults: 3 stars

Seniors: 3 1/2 stars

Should you rent it? Yes — Powerful theme and a brilliant performance by Pacino.

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF PETER SELLERS

A more appropriate title for this terrific HBO film about the legendary British comedic actor might be: "The Emotionally Tortured and Exceptionally Immature Life of Peter Sellers."

Geoffrey Rush delivers a magnificent performance worthy of Sellers himself and in the process paints a damning portrait of a man devoid of his own personality and any empathy. The film is intentionally disjointed and surreal, giving the viewer added insight into what is like to be Sellers.

This is no nostalgia-laden trip or humorous highlight reel of Seller's best moments. Instead, it is a hard look at a man who made millions laugh, but few truly understood. If you're not bitterly disappointed with Sellers when the closing credits roll, you haven't been paying attention. Not a good rental for kids under 13. (Not rated). 2 hours.

Ratings (out of 4 stars):

Overall: 3 stars

Kids: 1 star

Teens: 1 1/2 stars

Adults: 3 stars

Seniors: 3 1/2 stars

Should you rent it? Yes — Geoffrey Rush's stunning performance is mesmerizing.

THE SIMPSONS: BART WARS

If you're dying to see the final installment of the "Star Wars" series but the long lines snaking around East Bay movie theaters have kept you away and you're simultaneously mourning that another season of the Simpsons has just ended, then I have a "two birds with one stone" solution for you: rent this hysterical DVD. This is social satire at its best.

True Simpsons fanatics take note: the first five seasons of the show are also available on DVD and can satiate any cravings you might have during the summer hiatus. The cartoon violence and mature themes are not appropriate for kids under 11. (Not rated). 1 hour and 52 minutes.

Ratings (out of 4 stars):

Overall: 3 1/2 stars

Kids: 2 1/2 stars

Teens: 3 1/2 stars

Adults: 3 1/2 stars

Seniors: 2 stars

Should you rent it? Yes — Four great "Star Wars"-infused episodes from television's best show.

J.B. Alderman lives in Berkeley and can be reached via www.PhDVD.com.



CHANCELLOR PALPATINE (Ian McDiarmid), Obi-Wan and Anakin are taken prisoner aboard a Trade Federation ship.

As Vader's saga circles to the start, Lucas eyes arty future

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

WHEN IT WAS all over, when he finally saw the last few bittersweet frames of "Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith," Rob Coleman found himself choked up. The film's animation director was so farked up that he had to leave Skywalker Ranch's plush Stag Theatre and slip outside to the terrace to breathe in the cool, fresh Marin County air. Coleman, the guy who turned Yoda from a puppet into a lightsaber-wielding digital action figure, needed a drink.

"I was actually quite shaky, I have to tell you," Coleman said. "That took me by surprise."

Given that he never knew when George Lucas, the perfectionist, might want to tweak the movie again, it wasn't until that evening earlier this month that the sense of finality actually hit Coleman.

"It was sort of like, oh my God, that's it. We're done. There's nine years of my life."

Nine years of his life. Thirty years of writer/director Lucas' life. Three decades so lodged in our collective cultural histories that presidents can use "Star Wars" terminology to describe political strategies or enemies and the American populace will say, "Oh, OK, now I get it." At midnight Wednesday, the "Star Wars" movie will open in theaters nationwide and then it will all be over. Curtains. Finito. THE END.

We've all encountered big endings before, whether we're old enough to remember that last wistful "M*A*S*H" or so young that the end of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" seems like ancient history. Waiting for a final episode is nothing new; if you'd lived in the 1830s and were a fan of serial novels, you might have spent a whole year longing to know how Charles Dickens was going to wrap up "Oliver Twist."

But can anything really compare to the end of "Star Wars," a movie franchise so significant and so lucrative that it changed an industry and spawned its own empire, yet took 30 years to get to the point? No wonder Coleman was shaking.

Coleman may have been rattled to be saying goodbye to the "Star Wars" saga, but Lucas, the father of it all, seems elated. Two weeks ago, he invited the national entertainment media to Skywalker Ranch to see the movie and to, in brief increments, interview him, the film's producer, some of the movie's stars and a couple of his technology wizards. (Here's some daunting journalistic math: an infinite number of questions, a dozen reporters, 28 total minutes with Lucas.)

Even the most cynical journalists at the junket were willing to admit that "Revenge of the Sith" is easily the best of the second batch of "Star Wars" movies. The young Canadian actor Hayden Christensen, who makes the transition from sulky Anakin Skywalker to brooding Darth Vader in this movie, describes himself as having been moved by the new film, "which I think is a huge feat for a 'Star Wars' movie."

Lucas has a reputation for being prickly with the media, particularly critics who haven't found

artistic merit in his blockbusters. At this junket, when introduced to a reporter from the Los Angeles Times, Lucas couldn't resist the impulse to grumble about something that paper's main film critic wrote after the release of the almost universally panned "Episode I — The Phantom Menace" — even though the critic and the reporter work in different departments and that was six years ago.

So he can't entirely put old grudges behind him, but still, Lucas seems like a pretty happy guy. Content, if you will. Even willing to monkey around with a reporter from Radio Alice (FM 97.3) who wants him to record a goofy statement to broadcast. He's got the air of a man who's just finished a marathon.

"The important part for me is that I finally have got all the pieces together," Lucas said. "I hoped I could get through it without something going wrong and I'm relieved that I made it through. I finally got across the finish line. I'm happy with the way it turned out and the fact that now people can see it as a whole saga, 12 hours, rather than parts and pieces."

There are many astounding aspects to the "Star Wars" story, most of them financial. The first movie, now known as "A New Hope," and the fourth sequentially of the six, only cost \$13 million to make, but grossed \$797 million at the box office. One year after its initial release, "A New Hope" was still playing on 100 screens in the United States. Together, the five movies already released have generated close to \$3.5 billion at the box office alone. That's before doing the numbers for the video games, the toys, the merchandising deals.

But what is truly unique about the saga is the haphazard way it has been told, not from beginning to end, but rather from middle to end and then back again to the beginning to catch up with the middle. As a storyteller, Lucas would appear to be a man chasing his own tail.

This technique is not supposed to work. No one in his right mind would plan to hopscotch around this way. But Lucas has, holding viewers rapt despite the fact that they already know how it turns out, and b) the saga has to end on a tragic note, light-years away from the frolic that was "A New Hope."

Lucas has no regrets about the

See FUTURE, Page C9



HAYDEN CHRISTENSEN plays Anakin Skywalker, who is drawn to the dark side of the Force, becoming Darth Vader in "Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith."

Nostalgia boosts 'Sith'

■ Film's vivid action, link to original three flicks fill it with excitement, but corny bits and sad realization that Vader's a dolt detract

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

THAT EXPRESSION "it's only a movie" doesn't really apply to "Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith." As the last installment in what some have aptly called a galactic soap opera, it's more than just entertainment, it's an experience. With the promise of answers to questions that began almost three decades ago, it represents fulfillment for movie audiences spread across several generations.

So more than most movies, how "Revenge of the Sith" makes you feel is what truly matters. It is not a great movie, but it has emotion and nostalgia on its side. Unlike its two immediate predecessors — "Episode I — The Phantom Menace" and "Episode II — Attack of the Clones" — this film feels connected to the original three "Star Wars" movies. The digitally created worlds and characters (Yoda just gets cuter and cooler each time) are spectacular. The vivid action sequences seem as if they have a purpose. Like a comet paying a rare visit to the night sky, "Revenge of the Sith" catches us up in its excitement, even though, as with a comet, when all is said and done, there's an element of "is that all?"

Anyone with even a modest "Star Wars" education knows

REVIEW

- WHAT: "Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith"
- STARRING: Hayden Christensen, Ewan McGregor, Natalie Portman, Ian McDiarmid, Samuel L. Jackson, Jimmy Smits
- RATING: PG-13 (for sci-fi violence, intense images)
- RUNNING TIME: 2 hours, 20 minutes
- WHERE: Opens at select theaters midnight tonight, then wider on Thursday
- GRADE: B

that this particular movie has to reveal how Anakin Skywalker (Hayden Christensen) — last seen in "Attack of the Clones" as a petulant teenager with a talent for galactic war games and a natural instinct for the "Force" — turns to the dark side and becomes that ugly half-man, half-droid villain known as Darth Vader.

"Revenge of the Sith" gives us at least a reasonable explanation for that transition: insecurity. Anakin's Jedi pals, including his master, Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor), recognize his talents, but also his dangerously headstrong nature. They tend to treat him as if he's the boss's kid on a summer internship, which isn't a morale booster for the young Jedi. He's also terribly insecure about his — psychotherapy alert — relationship. His fear of losing his pregnant wife, Padme (Natalie Portman), is his ultimate downfall. (Curiously, despite the marvelous technology available



ANAKIN SKYWALKER (Christensen) positively rampages through the last 30 minutes of "Sith," here fighting his onetime mentor Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor) on the planet of Mustafar.



JACK TUCKER
Community Theater

Students set farewell show

AS 64-YEAR-OLD Jack Tucker makes way for a new generation, there's something about the title of the final department play, opening next week in the school's Little Theatre.

"The Disintegration of Cherry" by Jeff Vasey performed at 8 p.m. through Saturday.

The dark comedy "nightmare" of hilariously veiling episodes in the precocious (and somewhat noid) young man.

Tickets are \$10 and since 1991 Roger Anderson will join the cast, playing a cameo role in tribute to and sparking history of at El Cerrito High School.

Thanks, Roger, and you have finally made it to write with pleasure and honesty.

"They brought down the house!"

Incidentally, for all of the trivia buffs, the play goes back as far as 1789.

In British playwright Miller's drama, "A Fools" first performed in London's Theatre Royal, the play opened with the following change:

Actor: "Sir — Madam"

Heaven's sake let us begin

Actress: "What's the play?"

Actor: "Why, they are

ing ready to bring the

down."

Actually, the audience not clapping, but stamping feet, as audiences past (Europe) are still known whether in impatience or applause. The lines of the play were simply part of the

As to "house" for the

that use goes back to the 1660s, according to the Merriam-Webster Online.

LUGHNASSA

It's unusual to find

school plays in the

same time, although the

as critical links in the

ment and continuity of

nity theater. Today's

tors and tech crews

tomorrow's players

ences. But East Bay

High School in El

would rate a mention

its happy choice of "Lughnassa" for its 2005

play.

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is the story of five

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out their lives in a small

in Ireland. The time is

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What follows is a

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Ensemble of Berkeley

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Yaeger would love

would the players

small school who

reach out to a wide

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ing supplement to The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, May 20, 2005

Section D

New 2005 Volkswagen Jetta is a safe and affordable compact sedan

BY CONNIE KEANE
MOTOR MATTERS

Among the safest, most affordable compact sedans on the market, the Jetta is in my driveway right now. Volkswagen built a rock-solid 2005 model.

The design of the Jetta is undoubtedly one of the safest and the safety equipment goes to 11. What most carmakers are offering in the segment. In April, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety designated the 2005 Jetta a "best pick" for protection.

The Insurance Institute's Brian Vanortegui, president, said, "The new Jetta is the best vehicle to ace our side-impact test. It's the best performer among compact cars." During the crash testing, the Jetta had the highest ratings in head protection and structural design.

Constructing the body of the Jetta, Volkswagen installed advanced energy absorbing crumple-zone technology, so in a severe crash, the deformation absorbs the impact energy to protect the body and the occupants.

The science that works, and the Jetta is in the outstanding results of the Insurance Institute's crash tests.

Expressed with the striking new grille design on the Audi A4, front-wheel drive Jetta tester has a base price of \$20,390, and standard equipment stability control, anti-lock brakes, crash-active seatbelts, as well as adjustable headrests for all five seating positions and head-curtain side-impact airbags and head-curtain side-impact airbags.

It says it has achieved a major advancement with its electronic power steering. This steering assists the driver in continuing to drive ahead in strong crosswind conditions.

With this sedan bigger, it's more comfortable and delivers a faster off-the-mark than the previous compact



MOTOR MATTERS

THE 2005 VOLKSWAGEN

Jetta sedan is not only bigger, it's more powerful and delivers a faster off-the-mark performance over the previous compact Jetta.

KEANE ON WHEELS

Jetta. Its size can fool you. I think the 2005 Jetta looks like a midsize sedan, but despite the larger dimensions, it is still EPA-classified as a compact sedan. The Jetta has a very large trunk for a compact, which becomes more versatile with 60/40 split-folding rear seats.

Two new engines are offered in the Jetta. The base engine is an all-new 2.5-liter inline five-cylinder, which Volkswagen describes as a major advancement over the former 115-horsepower four-cylinder engine. The 2005 Jetta gets a 30-percent improvement in horsepower and nearly a 40-percent boost in pulling power (torque). The new 20-valve five-cylinder pumps out 150 horsepower at 5,000 rpm and 170 pounds-foot of torque at 3,750 rpm.

My tester had the optional \$1,075 six-

VOLKSWAGEN JETTA

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger front-wheel drive compact sedan
Suggested Retail	\$20,390
Price as Tested	\$24,040
Engine Type	20-valve DOHC inline 5-cylinder w/SMPFI
Horsepower	150 @ 5,000 rpm
Torque	170 @ 3,750 rpm
Transmission	Six-speed automatic
Wheelbase	102 inches
Height	57 inches
Curb Weight	3,285 pounds
Fuel Capacity	14 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 22/30

speed Tiptronic automatic transmission with Sport mode. I know I would have liked the standard-equipped five-speed manual transmission — and if I were buying this sedan I may have stayed with the manual. But I can certainly understand why a buyer would opt for the six-

speeder. With its sophisticated shift strategies and Tiptronic manual option, the automatic sixer provides drivers with a fun-to-drive four-door sedan.

Volkswagen also offers a turbocharged diesel engine on the 2005 Jetta. The 1.9-liter inline four-cylinder is rated to deliver

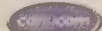
torque of 177 pounds-foot from 1,800 to 2,400 rpm. It produces 100 horsepower at 4,000 rpm.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary of the Jetta in North America, Volkswagen marks the occasion with an all-new model that makes me wonder, "How can the competition keep up?"

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1959 Imperial's big fins caught the eye of beholder

BY VERN PARKER
MOTOR MATTERS

As Bart Stringham explains, he was simply an innocent bystander, minding his own business, scanning cyberspace with his computer in search of old cars for sale. That's when a big, blue 1959 Imperial four-door hardtop Southampton sedan virtually leaped out of the monitor and captured his attention in the autumn of 2003.

The enormous fins must have captivated him because the electronic pictures were not especially flattering. "Apparently," Stringham says, "the seller had bought it the year before on eBay from a guy in California."

Stringham was in kindergarten when the 3,984 Imperial models were manufactured with a base price of \$5,016. Correspondence with the seller assured Stringham that the car was as advertised. "When it came to the final bidding," he says, "I just bid up to an amount where I allowed a reasonable amount of room for repairs."

The car, an inch and a half shy of 19 feet long, was trucked from Vermont just before Christmas on an open trailer through snow and sleet. Stringham had directed the truck driver to a spacious mall parking lot. He also enlisted the aid of his brother, Warde, to drive him to the mall. When they arrived, the truck driver had already unloaded the Imperial and it was idling while awaiting its new owner. There was just one minor problem. No title.

CLASSIC CLASSICS

A telephone call to Vermont elicited a response that the owner had overlooked that detail and he would send it along. About a week later Stringham received the document in the mail.

In the meantime, the new owner drove his car, with a recorded 125,900 miles on the odometer, to his home, followed closely by his brother, who happily reported that nothing fell off.

Upon arrival, Stringham could hardly discern the color of his new/old car. He immediately set about to clean what was parked in his driveway. Washing away the grime exposed an abundance of gleaming chrome and stainless steel.

That's when he first saw the true color of the Normandy blue car with the front part of the roof painted white. The new owner was pleasantly surprised that most things on the Imperial worked. The seats were in tatters and the starter was "touchy," problems that were quickly addressed. The 15-inch bias-ply white sidewall tires appeared to be serviceable, but were victims of dry rot. "Driving with those tires was like driving a bathtub full of water sloshing from side to side."

Stringham says a new set of radial tires made a world of difference. As befitting an automobile as luxurious as the Imperial, there are courtesy lights inside the cabin, as well



WHILE SURFING THE INTERNET for old cars for sale, this big, blue 1959 Imperial four-door hardtop Southampton sedan virtually leaped out of the monitor and captured Bart Stringham's attention in the autumn of 2003.

as under the engine hood, in the trunk and in the glove compartment.

The 4,745-pound Imperial is supported on a 129-inch wheelbase. The 350-horsepower produced by the 413-cubic-inch "wedge" V8 engine handily propels the 6.75-foot-wide sedan. A four-barrel downdraft carburetor feeds fuel to the engine from a 23-gallon gasoline tank.

The front bucket seats in the four-door hardtop sedan, now reuphol-

stered in blue vinyl, swivel toward the outside in order to ease exiting for the driver and passenger.

There isn't much inside the car that Stringham doesn't like, including the dashboard-mounted day/night mirror, the autopilot control near the driver's right knee, the rear-seat speaker, the power antenna and the two-spoke steering wheel with a 180-degree chrome-plated horn ring. To the driver's left is a stack

of buttons to operate the automatic transmission. Top to bottom, the buttons are labeled: Drive, Neutral, Reverse, Second, First.

The parking brake substitutes for a parking gear. At the bottom of the stack of buttons is a chrome lever that operates the turn signals. "It's a great car," Stringham says, with enthusiasm.

He is aware that an antique car is never done. In that regard he in-

tends to continue improving toward the elusive aim of "When I take the car out, it's like driving a new car."

For your car to be a subject of the Classic Classics, send a photo (frontal view), brief details and phone number to Vern Parker, 2221 Ashland Avenue, Vienna, VA 22181. Only good quality will be considered.

Automatic choke may be source of start problem on Blazer

BY JUNIOR DAMATO
MOTOR MATTERS

Dear Doctor: I own a Chevy Blazer S-10 with 73,000 miles. I have to pump the gas pedal a couple of times when cold to start the engine, which I think is normal. After driving a short distance and shutting the engine off, when I try to restart it soon after, the engine will crank but not start. I have to open the hood and stick a pencil in the carburetor to open the choke plate. — Vincent

Dear Vincent: The automatic choke on your Blazer needs 12 volts going to the choke thermostat to open as the engine warms up. The choke linkage also needs to move freely and not bind up. Check voltage at the choke thermostat with the

engine running. If the voltage is correct and the choke linkage is not binding, the problem is most likely a faulty choke thermostat. If voltage is not proper, check all fuses in the fuse box with a test light. On some choke systems, the power wire comes off the oil pressure switch with the engine running and oil pressure at specs.

Dear Doctor: Occasionally, when I start my 1999 Chevrolet Silverado, the ABS and brake lights illuminate on the dash. If I shut off the engine and restart it, these lights go off. I went to the dealer and was told the

problem is in the computer and the cost of repair could be as high as \$1,200. Current mileage is only 53,000 miles. This sounds like a lot of money for the repair. — John

Dear John: Don't do any repairs until the light remains on consistently. As long as the braking system is working, I would just shut off the engine and restart it to put the light out. If you do drive with the ABS light on, the ABS system will not activate and the truck brakes will work like a vehicle without ABS.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1995 Chevrolet Lumina 3.4-liter V6 engine with 143,000 miles. When starting a cold engine, it will race at 3,000 rpm, and then stall out. When the engine is warm it idles fine. There are no

trouble fault codes in the computer. — Vinny

Dear Vinny: The 3.4-liter DOHC V6 engine in your car has had more than its share of problems. There is a computer update that could be related to this situation. Other areas to look at are small vacuum leaks. A technician will need to hook up a scan tool before starting a cold engine to monitor all sensor values. Next, he'll start the engine and continue to monitor the scan tool and compare the actual readings to factory specs. At 143,000 miles, dirty fuel injectors could also be playing a roll in this problem.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1996 Pontiac Bonneville 3.8-liter V6. The engine is hard to start and the idle also

fluctuates, sometimes racing at high engine speeds. I'd like to work on the car myself, but have no idea what to look for. — Joseph

Dear Joseph: On an engine with an idle speed and starting problem such as yours, due to safety concerns, I recommend you get the car to a qualified repair technician. The hard start can be low fuel pressure, dirty throttle body, coolant sensor out of range and a host of other problems, including a vacuum leak. With an unstable idle and a loss of vacuum to the power brake booster, the braking in your car will be reduced greatly.

Dear Doctor: I own a 2004 Corvette that has less than 800 non-highway miles. It came with synthetic oil from the factory and I am concerned about the time change interval. The dealer said the oil life monitor system is very sophisticated at

monitoring temperature, engine run-time and that is displayed on the dashboard to change the oil. I feel I should change it now, or even better, have it changed. The other morning when I started the engine I heard the oil pump for a few seconds. What are your thoughts? — David

Dear David: I have what the car manufacturer is thinking with the recommendation of long oil change intervals. I have seen many dies of sludge build-up years of these long intervals. As for the oil, it could also be related to a slap. A lot of GM engines are really noisy. Under your conditions, changing the oil a year should be enough. Send questions to 43 Court Circle, Lawrenceville, GA 30046.

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Berkeley Disc \$4,845

Factory Rebate \$1,000

\$23,888

Sale Price

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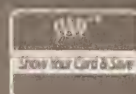


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Piaggio expands mid-range scooter line with bv200

BY ARV VOSS

MOTOR MATTER

It appears as though the scooter industry is becoming, or will soon become as complex as the motorcycle industry in terms of model offerings. There are seemingly almost as many motorcycle models and configurations available as there are automobiles. Manufacturers of scooters are growing in number, as are the variety of models that they bring to market.

There was a time that the mention of a motor scooter brought to mind a specific and particular image, on the order of the classic and traditional Vespa. That was then, this is now, and the model availability within the scooter genre is growing at a rapid pace, coming ever closer to motorcycle territory. Scooters have grown significantly in terms of not only displacement,

2-WHEELING TODAY

but in form, styling, purpose and wheel and tire size. Today, many scooters more closely resemble aggressive sport bikes in their appearance, thereby increasing their appeal across a much broader consumer range. Such a scooter is the Piaggio bv200.

In terms of its styling, the Piaggio bv200 takes on more of a sport bike look, except for the forward step-through and rear engine. It is void of the wasp-like bulbous engine covers that one expects on a more traditional Vespa scooter. When visiting my local Harley-Davidson dealership, more than one staffer stated, "Looks like a Vespa on steroids." That may well be the best description yet.

Many of the body components

are of composite material, unlike Vespa, which primarily utilizes metal in its construction. Color choices are limited to: Platinum metallic, Black, Red and Blue. Features and standard equipment include: a clock; temperature gauge; a speedometer calibrated to reflect both mph and kilometers; a trip computer; low fuel warning light and non-canceling turn signals. There are forward and under-seat locking storage compartments.

The bv200 is powered by a 200 cc (197.75), carbureted four-stroke single-cylinder motor with forced liquid cooling. The transmission is an expanding pulley-type automatic speed variator with couple interlock, vee belt and dry self-ventilated centrifugal automatic clutch (Continuously Variable Transmission), eliminating any shifting.

The scooter rides appropriately on 16-inch Italian tires (Pirelli)

mounted on five-spoke alloy wheels, with the ride quality smoothed out by hydraulic telescopic forks with 1.4-inch rod up front, and two hydraulic shock absorbers with double effect and 4-position pre-loading adjustment potential aft. Hydraulically operated discs controlled by front and rear activation handle stopping duties.

My test Piaggio bv200 wore a Platinum metallic finish with a Black seat and chrome trim accents. The base price was set at \$4,499. Dealer prep and delivery charges, along with a smoked fly screen, brought the total to \$4,844. Desirable options would be: a larger windscreen (\$195); a rear top case with passenger backrest (\$345); and hard side-bags (\$345).

Summary

The Piaggio bv200 is both an

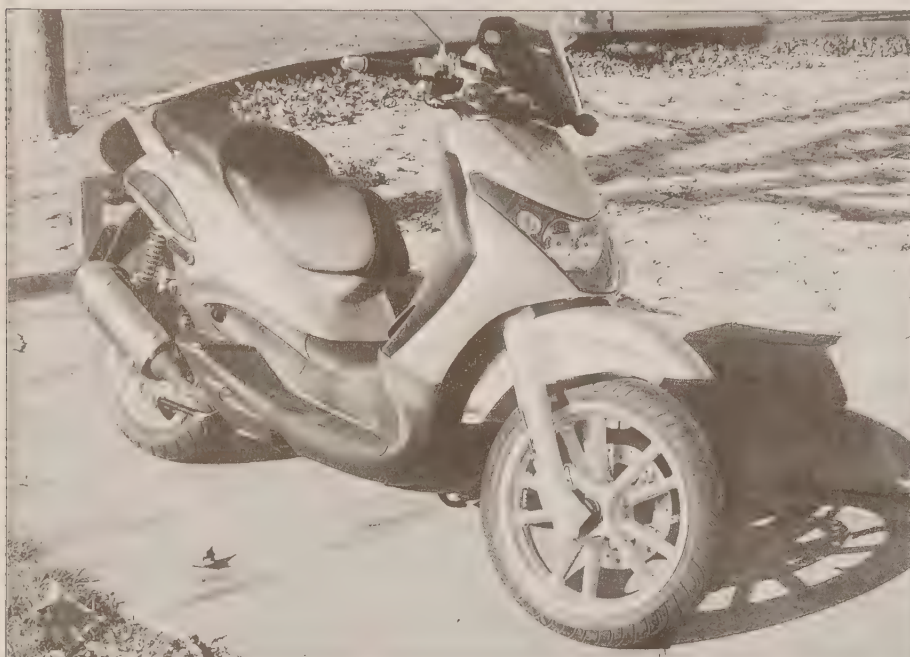
attractive and practical scooter that combines the capabilities of a motorcycle with the simplicity and functionality of a scooter. The two-level seat with electric lock is comfortable, but tends to be a little short before the passenger riser for tall riders. The seating position isn't for those with abbreviated inseams—touching down when stopped requires tip-toeing for shorter riders.

Firing up the motor requires that one of the hand brakes be engaged and the side stands up as added safety precautions. Once warmed up, riding the bv200 is a breeze. It is exceptionally well balanced for slow speed maneuvering and cruises quite nicely 55-60 mph on the highway. I would have preferred the taller windshield to the short fly-screen, which tended to direct the wind into my face.

The Piaggio bv200 brings scootering up to stylishly current standards with modern reliability and features, but there's simply something charismatic about older classic Vespas. Whatever your preference, there is no question that scooter ownership and riding is rapidly on the rise in the U.S.

Piaggio bv200 specifications

Base Price: \$4,499.
Price as Tested: \$4,844.
Engine Type and Size: 200 cc (197.75) 4-stroke single cylinder with carburetor and forced liquid cooling.
Transmission: Expanding pulley automatic speed variator with couple interlock, vee belt, dry self-ventilated centrifugal automatic clutch.
Drive Train: Gear final drive
Suspension: Front—Hydraulic telescopic fork with 1.4 inch rod; Rear—Two hydraulic shock absorbers with double effect and 4-position pre-loading adjustment.
Brakes: Front disc hydraulically operated by right handlebar lever. Rear disc hydraulically operated by left handlebar lever.
Tires: Pirelli GTS 23 110/70-16 M/C 52P front/Pirelli GTS24 140/70-16 M/C 65P rear—mounted on 5-double-spoke alloy wheels.
Wheelbase: 58.07 inches
Length Overall: 83.46 inches
Curb Weight dry: 359 pounds
Fuel Capacity: 2.3 gallons (0.4 reserve)
Seat height: 38.38 inches
Top speed: 76 mph



THE PIAGGIO BV200 is both an attractive and practical scooter that combines the capabilities of a motorcycle with the simplicity and functionality of a scooter.

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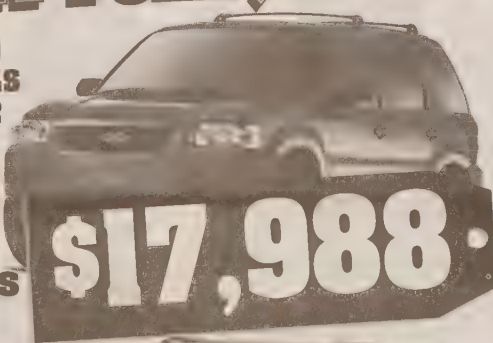
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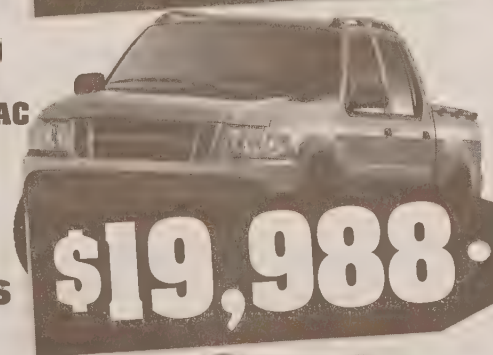


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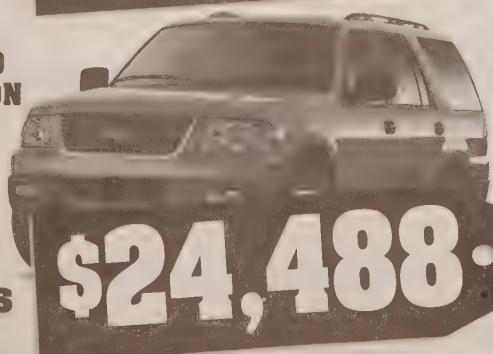


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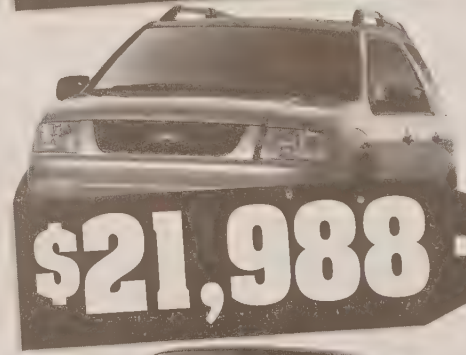


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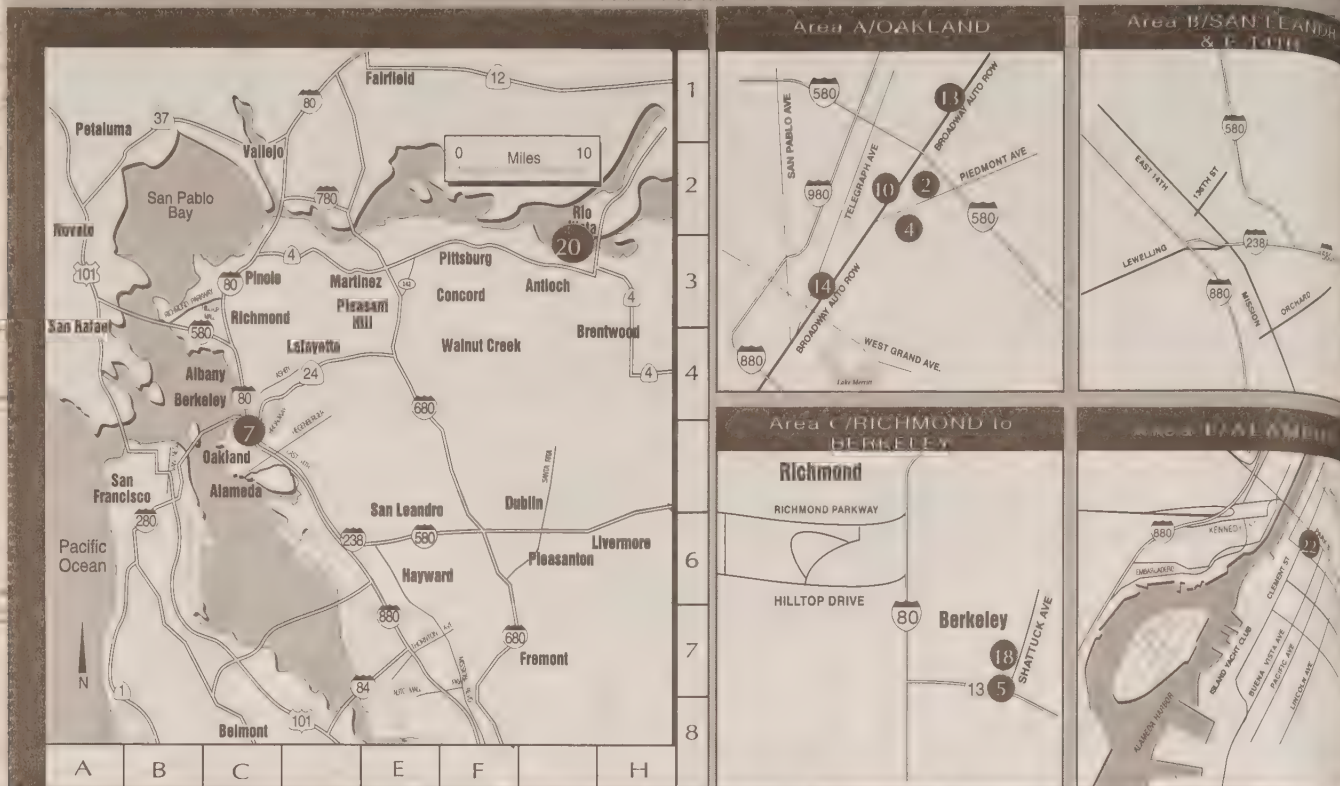
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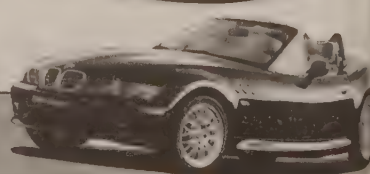
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SPORTS

Section C

Friday, February 21, 2005

J • V

Alameda triples its pleasure

Hornets drill nine 3-pointers to outlast El Cerrito in an ACCAL matchup

By Scott Strain

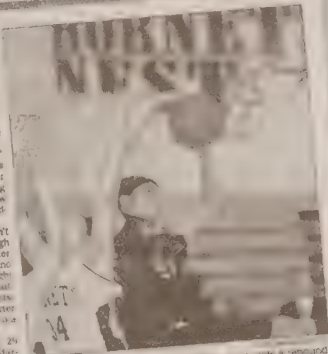
Live on the "3" or die by the "3" — and Alameda lived. The Hornets drilled nine 3-pointers to outlast El Cerrito in an ACCAL matchup on Tuesday night. The Hornets, coached by Alameda coach Ron Williams, scored 44-27. El Cerrito, coached by Ron Williams, scored 27-44. The Hornets, coached by Alameda coach Ron Williams, scored 44-27. El Cerrito, coached by Ron Williams, scored 27-44. The Hornets, coached by Alameda coach Ron Williams, scored 44-27. El Cerrito, coached by Ron Williams, scored 27-44.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

excruciating 81-56 loss to Berkeley on Tuesday and came out a bit ragged against El Cerrito, which it had defeated 57-54 in El Cerrito on Jan. 17. The Gauchos, coached by Alameda coach Ron Williams, scored 57-54. El Cerrito, coached by Ron Williams, scored 54-57. The Gauchos, coached by Alameda coach Ron Williams, scored 57-54. El Cerrito, coached by Ron Williams, scored 54-57.

for Nicole Catania stole the ball from Andrese McGrew underneath the Alameda basket and scored for 41-37. The Gauchos turned the ball over immediately after that and Calandri hit another 3-pointer for 44-37. El Cerrito called timeout with 7:05 left in the period and already had turned the ball over four times. The visitors never got back into it. Alameda extended the lead to 60-49 with eight seconds left in the third quarter, and the Gauchos, their inside game evaporating, were forced to go to the perimeter to get back in the game.

Calandri finished with 29 points to lead all scorers. Marquis Green had 28 points, and El Cerrito's Jordan McCombs had 14. The key to Calandri's success was ball movement: the Gauchos simply didn't get around the perimeter fast enough to challenge her. When she got the ball, she was open. She had the time to plant, set and shoot. "It was a bad job of coaching," El Cerrito coach Ron Williams said. "That's it. I'm serious. Our substitution patterns were wrong and didn't work. Those first few moments of the third quarter didn't help either."



EL CERRITO HIGH'S Andrese McGrew (right) gets a rebound over Alameda's Shantique Duggins (left) in their ACCAL game on Tuesday night.

ACCAL NOTEBOOK

Oilers set for NCS opener

By Orlando Molina

After a brief postponing week caused by the Alameda versus Contra Costa Athletic League soccer season, league champions Berkeley High School is gearing up to face the first opponent tomorrow in the second round of North Coast Section play.



Canceled games hurt Salesian

By Scott Strain

The Salesian High School boys soccer team had two Bay Shore Athletic League matches postponed, "two matches," and they may have lost Berkeley's North Coast Section berth.

From balls, pucks and pins to oars, sails and skis, we've got local sports covered.

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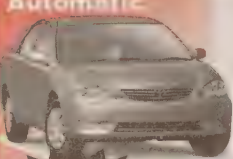
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Shopping Plus

Friday, May 20, 2005

Look inside for local advertising circulars every Friday

Checking your credit

Where to start

Start here: www.annualcreditreport.com. This site is run by Central Source, a joint venture among the three credit bureaus to process free credit reports. Or you can call toll-free 877-834-2746 by mail, and the reports are mailed to you within 15 days.

If you're ordering online, it's best to type the address directly into your Internet browser rather than clicking a link from another Web site.

Some consumers have reported trying to get their free reports by going through the individual Web sites of the three credit bureaus. But they first have to wade through pages with advertising for expensive monthly credit-monitoring programs and other services to get their free report, Garcia said.

Other consumer advocates warn that likely fraudulent operators will hijack their own sites to scam consumers.

Don't respond to offers from people or companies to get your credit reports for you. "We tell people not to do something you're going to do on your own," Garcia said.

Consider setting aside a block of uninterrupted time so you'll have a chance to thoroughly understand what you're seeing. Garcia also recommends doing this from your home computer because you'll need to have certain financial information handy to answer security questions.

Personal information

Now, swallow hard. You'll be asked a series of personal questions to make sure it's really you, including your birth date and Social Security number. Central Source says its security protocols and measures protect personal information from unauthorized access or alteration. A notice says the Social Security number is encrypted for additional protection.

And you can request that just the last four digits of that number appear on your printed credit report.

Order all three?

Next, you'll be asked which reports you'd like to see. You can choose to just look at the information online or print the complete report. (The reports can run to dozens of pages.)

You can choose to see all three at once — advocates recommend this if you're planning to make a big purchase in the near future.

Or you can space out the three reports during the year. This is helpful for monitoring your credit reports for signs of identity theft or fraud.

Remember, you can only request a free credit report from each bureau every 12 months.

Three approaches

You'll be redirected to Web sites for each of the three credit bureaus. Each will ask you a series of personal questions to validate your identity: the name of your mortgage lender and amount of your monthly payment, or the amount of your auto loan, for example.

Each Web site has a different look and feel.

Experian has a handy summary report that shows the number of "potentially negative" items in your credit history and number of accounts in good standing.

Equifax shows an exhaustive list of accounts, what type they are, when they were opened, the balance and credit limit, last payment and account status.

TransUnion uses a color-coded system of boxes to show which accounts are current and which are overdue.

Each shows who else has been looking at your credit report — credit card companies seeking to approve you for a credit card offer, mortgage brokers or lenders trying to approve you for a loan, or existing lenders reviewing your account.

Each also links to a page with information regarding an error.

Each also gets the address and phone number for each credit bureau, handy if you need to follow up on an error. And you're given the option of submitting a "personal statement" where you can explain why a credit report in your own words.

Each report remains on file for two



The sales pitches

Along the way, you'll also have to contend with multiple offers for fee-based products and services. You don't have to buy them to get your free credit reports.

The credit bureaus have loaded up their Web sites with offers for monthly credit-report alerts, credit rankings, home valuations and more.

Credit experts say one additional purchase you may want to consider is your credit score. This is the number most lenders look at to decide whether to give you credit and on what terms.

You can buy all three credit scores, or just one. If you buy just one, consider spending \$6.95 for your FICO-based credit score, available through Equifax. FICO stands for Fair Isaac Corp. and is sometimes referred to as the gold standard for credit scores, the one that carries the most weight with lenders. (The other scores cost slightly less.)

The credit bureaus will be persistent in trying to get you to buy additional products. On its Web site, Equifax has a pop-up ad for its FICO score. Even if you choose "no thanks," the offer pops up again along with additional advertising for other services.

TransUnion offers to send you a free monthly newsletter with tips on managing your credit — and if you sign up, you're also opting in for alerts to be sent to you about other TransUnion products. A small box next to the newsletter offer is automatically checked "yes"; you'll have to click again to uncheck it if you don't want to sign up.

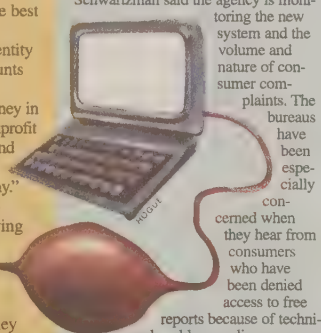
Online troubles

Some consumers have reported the online system crashed when they were trying to see their credit information. This was a particular problem right after the new system launched in December; most of the complaints to the FTC came in the first few days.

When consumers tried again later, some got a message saying they already had gotten their free report and wouldn't be eligible again for 12 months.

FTC spokeswoman Jen Schwartzman said the agency is monitoring the new system and the volume and nature of consumer complaints. The bureaus have been especially concerned when they hear from consumers who have been denied access to free reports because of technical problems online.

She recommends that consumers call the toll-free number to report problems and work with customer-service representatives.



Under a new law, credit reports are free, but not easy to nail down. Here's a guide that hammers out the process.

By JOLAYNE HOUTZ
The Seattle Times

You'll need time, patience and a measure of caution if you plan to take advantage of a new federal law to obtain free credit reports from the three major credit bureaus.

Consumers in 13 Western states were the first to be eligible for the free reports in December under the **Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act (FACT)**. The rest of the states will be phased in throughout the year, until residents in all states are eligible Sept. 1.

But getting your reports won't be particularly quick or painless.

You may feel squeamish about providing all the personal information required. You'll have to wade through dense, sometimes confusing detail on your credit history. Some consumers report running into technical problems that prevented them from ordering reports online.

And watch out for pop-up offers for fee-based products and services you may not want or need.

Still, consumer advocates say it's a powerful tool for understanding your credit record and its effect on your finances.

The new law says every consumer is eligible for a free annual copy of the credit report maintained by each of the three nationwide credit bureaus: Experian, Equifax and TransUnion.

This is different from your credit score — the number calculated on a scale between about 300 and 925 that most lenders look at. You'll still have to pay a fee to get a look at your credit score, also available from the three bureaus.

The law is meant to let consumers see what lenders and others see when deciding whether to rent you an apartment, give you a job or give you the best rate on a mortgage.

It's also supposed to help consumers spot identity theft by letting them see a list of all credit accounts open in their names.

"It's worth it," said Norma Garcia, senior attorney in the West Coast office of Consumers Union, a nonprofit consumers organization. "It's your information, and it makes a difference in whether you get certain services or privileges and what you're going to pay."

Garcia said her group is concerned that consumers might feel pressured or tricked into paying for additional services such as monthly credit monitoring that they might not need.

"Confusion creates profits" for the bureaus, Garcia said. "They're not necessarily interested in making it as easy as could be for people to get their credit reports. ... Our sense is it shouldn't be so hard."

Nonetheless, she maintains it's worth the effort.

Here's how the process works — and what to watch out for.

Improving your credit picture

Q: How can I improve my credit standing?

A: "If you have a lot of credit outstanding compared to your limits, or if you pay late — those are the worst things you can do," said Ed Mierzwinski of U.S. PIRG, the national office for WashPIRG, the Washington State Public Interest Research Group.

Here's what credit bureaus and consumer advocates suggest to build a good credit score:

■ Pay your bills on time; late payments, collections and bankruptcies have the greatest negative impact on your credit score.

■ Keep your account balances below 50 percent of your available credit. Pay down credit balances with what you can afford (more than just the monthly minimum, if possible).

■ Close some old or inactive accounts if you have quite a few open — but don't close the oldest accounts listed. That helps establish your history of active credit use.

■ Watch the frequency of credit applications. A large number of applications for credit may prompt a large number of "hard inquiries" by lenders for your credit report. And that may signal that you're having money troubles or overextending yourself.

However, applying for the same kind of credit in a short amount of time — say, if you're shopping for a good deal on a car — is not supposed to weigh against you.

Q: But I heard it's good to carry some debt so lenders can see you handle it responsibly.

A: While it's generally good advice to pay off your credit cards, Norma Garcia, of Consumers Union, said young

married couples with just a mortgage might want to carry a small balance on a credit card and pay it off regularly so their record reflects more than just their mortgage history.

And younger people just starting out with credit may want to be particularly careful about paying bills on time and not applying for too much credit until they've established a track record of managing the debt they already have.

Q: If I pay off an old debt, will that add a certain number of points to my score?

A: Each credit bureau uses a slightly different process for deriving its credit scores.

Key factors influencing your credit score: number and severity of late payments; type, number and age of accounts; total debt; and recent inquiries.

Credit scores do not reflect: your race, gender or marital status; your age, occupation or employment history; your salary or amount of savings.

Q: If you have a bad credit spell — a period where you didn't pay on time or ran up big bills — how long should it take for your credit score to recover?

A: "You can't erase your credit history," Equifax spokesman David Rubinger said. Most information stays on your credit report for seven years. That includes late payments, collections and small-claims judgments. Bankruptcies stay on for 10 years. Unpaid tax liens remain for 15 years.

"Hard inquiries" from creditors or lenders when you've applied for credit stay on two years and can cause a drop in your credit score if there are too many.

(It's considered a "soft inquiry" when you look at your own credit report or if a company looks at it to make you an unsolicited promotional offer; these inquiries don't affect your credit score.)

— Jolayne Houtz

Free credit reports

How to order them: You have three choices:

■ Online at www.annualcreditreport.com

■ By phone toll-free: 877-322-8228

■ By mail: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

If you want to receive the reports by mail, you must mail in a request form available on the Web site of the Federal Trade Commission: www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/credit/docs/fact_act_request_form.pdf

For more information: Check out the FTC's Web site: www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/pubs/credit/freereports.htm. You can also make a complaint online at this address.

Consumers Union has prepared a helpful report, "Your Credit Matters," available free online: www.consumersunion.org/issues/creditmatters.html. The nonprofit consumers organization also is conducting a voluntary survey available at that address about consumer experiences in ordering and reviewing their free credit reports. The group plans to share survey results with the FTC in coming months to improve the process.



WALLFLOWER FRIEND: Donna Morrison, the owner of The Top Knot in Belleville, Illinois, stands by one of her creations at her store.

Artist decks shop with murals that have their own wardrobes

BY DEBRA D. BASS
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

ST. LOUIS - The lady in the vintage sleeveless dress with white gloves and purple pumps adorned with pink bows is more than a remembrance of times past... she's wearing your clothes!

Or at least she could be. Donna Morrison of the recently opened Top Knot shop in Belleville, Ill., wanted to create something eye-catching for her decor. She said that she wanted to "dress up the walls," and suddenly she decided to take herself literally.

A self-taught artist, Morrison once worked in merchandising, outfitting mannequins at a clothing store. It wasn't a stretch to paint women on the walls and affix real-world clothing to the two-dimensional surface.

"I decided to make them look like ladies who just came in to browse," Morrison said. She even armed one of the shoppers with a real shopping bag and draped a faux pearl necklace around her collar.

Although she didn't intend to promote the idea for commis-

sions, many visitors to her shop, which features original objects, have expressed an interest in owning their own painted lady, which Morrison is modestly offering for \$25 to \$50. Morrison said the consensus seems to be that the women she paints are best-suited for laundry rooms.

One customer is interested in having Morrison paint the back of a woman in a dress, hanging laundry on a line. The mural will probably incorporate real and painted objects, such as a painted line and a mix of painted and real clothing. The search is on for just the right dress for the laundress with a decorative rear view.

But the clothed murals pose an intriguing proposition for anyone with clothing they can't bear to part with or in search of something unique to dress up a powder room, foyer, laundry or children's room.

Morrison says the murals would be ideal for a mom looking to give a beloved dress one last lease on life or a parent trying to console a child who doesn't want to give up a favorite pair of overalls or party dress.

Or such a mural would be adorable in a kitchen, she says, "if you dress her in an apron and a dress."

At Top Knot, Morrison is working on two additional painted ladies in prom dresses. She's planning to adorn them with real corsages (made of faux flowers, of course) and perhaps earrings, but their necklaces and shoes will be painted on.

And the best thing about the painted ladies is that their wardrobe can change for special occasions. Maybe your lady would prefer to dress up for the holidays or wear something airy for the summer.

"I don't paint anything behind the dresses," so it's not like she'll ever be naked, Morrison says. But she'll look awfully odd unclothed with no torso.

Morrison's whimsical creations generally have apple cheeks, bright attire and knowing smiles and will be slightly reminiscent of Mary Engelbreit's country-cute creations. Morrison is a big fan.

And guys, fret not. Morrison says that the clothed mural idea is easily adaptable for menswear. The entreprenuring artist also



URBAN OASIS: Rebecca Dahm, 7, in the family reading room that features a mural painted by Donna Morrison. The family lives in Swansea, Illinois.

does more traditional murals of real-life and fantasy landscapes. For a client's granddaughter, Morrison fashioned her playroom into a tropical Hawaiian getaway. The mural rests behind a couch, creating the impression that the viewer is looking out across the terrace at lush surroundings.

Using a wall as a dramatic backdrop converts an ordinary room into a wonderland, Morrison says.

"There's just something magical about it," she says, adding that it brightens up a typical space in a way that plain paint can't.

Top Knot specializes in original objects crafted by Morrison. She has lots of items, including photo frames, plaques and canvas embellished with text in her fanciful script. The text tends toward cutesy, not snippy, quips. Morrison also makes pillows and personalized cards.

Morrison's whimsical creations generally have apple cheeks, bright attire and knowing smiles. The text tends toward cutesy, not snippy, quips. Morrison also makes pillows and personalized cards.

Do-it-yourself weekend projects enhance outdoor living

ARA

Trellises have been adding character and elegance to outdoor living spaces for years. Better yet, these stylish wooden structures are practical projects that bring everyday elegance to your yard or garden — and can be built in a single weekend.

Now is an ideal time to consider easy-to-construct outdoor features like a Western Red Cedar trellis. These elegant structures provide calming tranquility and dress up your front or backyard natural setting.

Here are a few considerations to remember when enhancing your outdoor living space with a trellis, and resources where to receive free trellis information brochures:

Site selection

Consider attaching the trellis to your home, using it to shelter a path between the main house and an outbuilding, or simply frame the view of another landscape feature. Remember, one of the greatest appeals of a trellis is its architecture — so make sure the site and size you choose is appropriate for its surroundings. Layout

Take special care when deciding the proportions of foundation

posts and overhead canopy. For instance, a set of 4-inch by 4-inch posts would be ideal with 2-inch by 6-inch overhead boards. Also, make sure the posts are vertically straight and even in height, and ensure the overhead canopy boards are level and evenly spaced in parallel to each other — attention to detail is essential here.

Materials

There are a number of choices available, but one of the most popular building materials for trellises is Western Red Cedar. Many homeowners specify Western Red Cedar due to its all-natural look, pleasant aroma and character that blend nicely with the natural surroundings. And Western Red Cedar's natural resistance to decay and insects has long been recognized.

"Natural qualities of Western Red Cedar make it an excellent choice for a wide range of building projects both inside the home and outside the home — like trellises," said Peter Lang, general manager of the Western Red Cedar Lumber Association. "Unlike plastic or imitation wood products, cedar is one of the most environmentally-friendly building materials you can use. It's naturally durable without the need for

chemical treatment, dimensionally stable, resilient and lightweight."

Western Red Cedar is also free of the pitch and resin found in other softwoods — a quality that makes it ideal for a wide range of finishes. Whether you choose a lightly tinted semi-transparent stain or a two-coat solid color finish, cedar ranks at the top in its ability to accept and retain a finish.

Construction tips

Prior to digging your postholes, remove all rocks, plants or sod that inhabit the area. These items can be strategically added or relocated after the trellis has been built.

Also, it's paramount the posts

See ENHANCE, Page 4

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Secrets to savory steaks

PHOTO: EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

Start your grill, it's steak season. Crowned king of the "barby," it's still America's favorite grilled meat, according to the National Beef Processors Association. Beef is supreme when it comes to protein, and is packed with B vitamins and iron.

So what's the secret to making mouthwatering, restaurant-style steak on your own backyard grill? Choose the right cut. With its tender meat, top sirloin is an excellent steak to please just about everyone, and a perfect candidate for marinating.

Marinades like new Lawry's Steak & Chop Marinade make it easy to bring the robust flavor of a favorite steakhouse home, with a blend of garlic, black pepper, coarse mustard, caraway seed and a splash of lemon juice to tenderize. The easiest way to marinate is in a resealable plastic storage bag. Simply place your meat and marinade in the bag and seal, turning occasionally. After marinating, just discard the used bag and marinade. Remember to always marinate in the refrigerator.

To know when your steak is perfectly cooked, using an instant-read thermometer, check for the following temperatures: medium-rare: 135 degrees, medium: 160 degrees, well-done: 170 degrees. Never stab your steak with a fork — always use tongs to turn while on the grill.

To celebrate steak at your next "dinner soiree" with this simple cowboy chophouse recipe.

CHOPHOUSE STEAK WITH RANCH-STYLE DIPPING SAUCE
2 pounds top sirloin steak or favorite steak cut
(sauce) bottle Lawry's Steak

The easiest way to marinate is in a resealable plastic storage bag. Simply place your meat and marinade in the bag and seal, turning occasionally. After marinating, just discard the used bag and marinade. Remember to always marinate in the refrigerator.

& Chop Marinade With Lemon Juice, divided
1/2 cup Lawry's Steak Sauce
1/4 cup Wish-Bone Ranch or Blue Cheese Dressing

In resealable plastic bag, combine steak and 1 cup marinade. Marinate in refrigerator for 1 hour, turning several times. Remove steaks, discarding used marinade. Grill steaks over medium-high heat to desired doneness, turning and brushing often with remaining marinade.

In small bowl, combine steak sauce and ranch dressing. Serve as dipping sauce with steak.

Meal Idea: Thinly slice grilled steak to top a salad. Use the Ranch-Style Dipping Sauce as a dressing. Prep time: 10 minutes, marinate time: 1 hour, cook time: 16 minutes, makes 4 servings.

All materials courtesy of Lawry's Foods.



SO WHAT'S THE SECRET to making a mouthwatering, restaurant-style steak on your own backyard grill? First, choose the right cut. With its lean, tender meat, top sirloin is an excellent steak to please just about everyone, and a perfect candidate for marinating.

Never stab your steak with a fork — always use tongs to turn while on the grill. To know when your steak is properly cooked, using an instant-read thermometer,

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How to add art to your garden

Although our gardens have always teemed with nature's artistic palette — truly they are already natural works of art — in the last decade gardeners have seen artists and craftsmen creating objects of distinction solely for garden spaces. And at the same time, gardeners have become more attuned to recognizing what a simple, well-placed structure or piece of art tucked into a "secret spot" can bring to their garden spaces.

Basic concepts to consider

When designing your space, start with the overall look or mood you want to create and then work your way down to the details. Maybe it's easiest to compare designing your outdoor space to decorating the interior of your home. "You wouldn't position your bed in the kitchen, for example," says garden advisor Larry Herbert of Garden Artisans, a company that specializes in unique garden art. Think of the outdoor structure of your garden space as the walls and functions of your home and assess your desires and needs.

What is it you want to be able to comfortably do in your outdoor

space? It may be entertaining; it may be meditation. It may be a children's play area. It may be all of the above. But your overall plan will need to take these into consideration when designing your "room" divisions.

Once you have taken the time to really lay out your exterior garden "rooms," then you have a framework within which to work. Challenge yourself to envision ways in which you can introduce elements into your garden that will stimulate as many of your senses as possible.

Adding structure

Combining man-inspired structures — vases, arbors, statuary — with nature's palette of color and life will bring untold pleasures to your senses. Herbert offers these examples to get your ideas flowing:

- An arch positioned over a walkway and covered with an aromatic vine will please your sense of smell and sight as well as provide an entry way that draws a visitor into your garden's sensual sanctuary.

- A beautiful bird feeder placed away from your deck but within sight will bring endless entertainment and beauty to your patio. It is quite amazing the flurry

of activity a little bird seed will cause in a backyard.

- A small sculpture or wind chime tucked away along a path or a larger, more dramatic sculpture used as an accent or focal point will draw the eye and beckon visitors to your garden.

Art is in the details

As Bunny Williams, designer and author of "On Garden Style," says, "To view garden ornaments as baubles, to add them as afterthoughts, is to miss the chance to elevate an outdoor space from merely pleasant to truly artful."

For the gardener who heeds that advice but rushes down to the nearest home improvement warehouse or mega garden center to purchase their garden accent pieces, their end result will unfortunately not be what they envisioned: they will wind up with

A beautiful bird feeder placed away from your deck but within sight will bring endless entertainment and beauty to your patio. It is quite amazing the flurry of activity a little bird seed will cause in a backyard.

a mere variation of every other shopper's garden.

The reason for this is obvious. The mass produced planters, birdbaths, arbors, and statuary inherently provide generic focal points instead of the distinctive focal points the gardener may have envisioned.

Strive to find art for your garden that will convey your overall theme and yet express something distinctive about you. For instance, you may be a Frank Lloyd Wright fan or you may really like the visual stimulation of a kinetic wind sculpture or the movement and sound emanating from a water feature.

Take time to work the art and necessary structures into your overall design; don't just drop them in willy-nilly.

Think outside the "box store"

Thinking outside the box store opens up a whole new world of custom sizes and distinctive one-of-a-kind art objects. When art is created by hand it is inherently unique. Any gardener intent on

creating a truly magnificent garden should seriously consider the big chains as often as the local garden centers. To see the treasures, arbors, sculptures and more visit www.gardenartisans.com.


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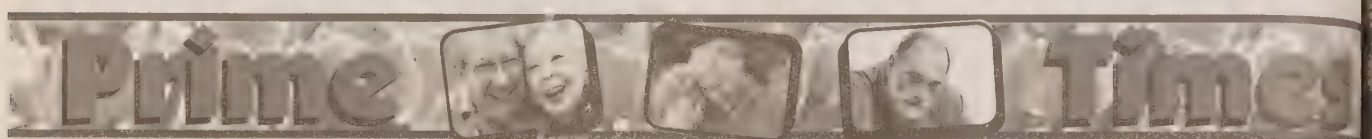
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Fast Facts About Merrill Gardens at San Ramon

Merrill Gardens at San Ramon provides an independent living environment for senior residents in an apartment like setting. Merrill Gardens provides meals, housekeeping services and planned activities for residents as well as assisted living support for those who need help with the tasks of daily living.

LOCATION:
18888 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94583

LIVING OPTIONS:
Merrill Gardens at San Ramon offers charming studio apartments. Assisted living services are available as needed. Residents pay rent on a month-to-month basis with no up front buy-in fees. Spacious One-Bedroom Apartments with Full Kitchens Coming Soon!

AMENITIES:
Merrill Gardens at San Ramon offers a variety of amenities designed to enhance each resident's quality of life. Only Merrill Gardens communities offer Anytime Dining, which means residents can enjoy gourmet meals in the dining room on their schedule. Merrill Gardens residents also benefit from a variety of unique and interesting scheduled activities, transportation, a custom computer center, beauty salon, and access to recreational opportunities.

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MANAGEMENT:
Merrill Gardens at San Ramon is owned and operated by Merrill Gardens of Seattle, Washington. Merrill Gardens is one of the top ten owner/operators of assisted living retirement communities in the country. The company consists of 66 communities in 15 states. The management and resources of Merrill Gardens ensure high standards of service and a long-term commitment to quality, security, choice and privacy in all Merrill Gardens communities.

New Hearing Instrument Designed Specifically For Baby Boomers

As more and more of the baby boom generation approaches retirement age, many will find themselves experiencing the first stage of hearing loss, the diminished perception of high-frequency sounds.

Yet for those baby boomers who tend to resist signs of advanced age, hearing instruments have proven to be a difficult sell. According to Johnna McMartin, Hearing Instrument Specialist, today's middle-agers are more concerned about maintaining a youthful appearance. "They believe they can better hide a slight hearing loss by not wearing a hearing aid," Johnna said. "They're also wary of common hearing aid problems such as overamplified sounds and the uncomfortable feeling of a plugged-up ear."

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The ReSoundAIR's WarpOpen™ wide dynamic range compressor provides extraordinary resolution for softer high-frequency sounds with near-zero distortion and internal noise. Simultaneously, multi-band, fast acting noise reduction reduces background noise while leaving speech unaffected. The microprocessor works so incredibly fast, it can actually cut down noise in the tiny pauses between syllables or words. Even the problem of annoying feedback is handled by digital feedback suppression.

"Everything about the ReSoundAIR is designed to appeal to today's middle-aged generation," says Dr. Joel C. Ross. "As I like to say to my patients, 'this isn't your grandma's hearing aid.'"

GN ReSound, one of the world's largest manufacturers of hearing

instruments, is known internationally for setting the pace of innovation in the industry. The company's commitment to intensive research and creative solutions has resulted in a steady stream of innovative products for the hearing-impaired.

In Pinole, Doctor's Center for Hearing, at 2160 Any Way, Suite 202, can provide a demonstration of ReSoundAIR hearing instruments, offer free screenings and other services. Johnna McMartin can be reached at 510-724-6519 or 888-449-EARS.



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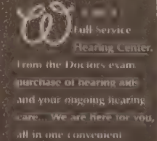
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PAGE 2

...creative touches

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"It's a very simple process," says Jim Frey, at Rockler Woodworking and Hardware. "The more intricate you get the longer it will take, but the whole process itself is fairly simple. Every item comes with instructions on how to apply, so it's not hard to do."

The most popular places to incorporate decorative glass are doors, sidelight panels, transoms, cabinet doors, ceiling light panels and bathroom windows, says Sandy Jendal of Chrysalis Decorative Glass, Inc., in McKinney, Texas. It's ideal for applications where privacy is required without sacrificing natural light.

Best of all, Jendal says, turning a new or existing glass panel into a decorative glass panel is a snap. She outlined the basic steps of creating a decorative glass panel that consists of embossed film for a textured glass look, leading and glass bevels.

All of the products used in this project are available through Rockler Woodworking and Hardware's mail-order catalog, 35 retail locations and online at Rockler.com.

Make a design template

Make a template of the design

you'd like on a piece of paper, or use a pattern from a book and enlarge it to the size panel you wish to put it on.

Jendal's design was a 12 inch by 18 inch Manchester pattern for a vertical cabinet door. She spent less than \$85 on supplies, compared to spending more than \$140 to have the piece custom made. "For a novice like me it took four hours, which is pretty good considering what you're saving versus buying custom-order traditional cut stained glass," Jendal said.

Apply leading to back of glass

Once you have your pattern, attach it to the front side of the glass. Turn the cleaned glass panel over and apply self-adhesive lead to match the leading lines on the template. Simply connect point A to point B following the lines of the pattern.

Using the plastic burnishing peg that comes with the lead, firmly press down all the lead, making sure there are no gaps when one piece of leading crosses over another piece. The leading is movable before it permanently cures, so you can lift it off and reapply if you make a mistake.

Apply embossed film, glass bevels and leading to front panel

Once the leading has been applied to the back of the panel, flip the panel over and remove the tem-

plate. The leading on the back panel will serve as your guide to layout the embossed film, leading and bevels on the front side of the panel.

Working on a clean, dust-free surface, cut a piece of the embossed film slightly larger than the area you wish to cover. Remove the paper backing and lightly mist the adhesive with distilled water. Place the film in the desired location and use a squeegee or soft pad to remove any excess water or air bubbles. Using the lead lines on the opposite side as a guide, cut the film in the middle of the lines using a hobby knife or razor blade. Make sure to leave a 1/16 inch channel between neighboring pieces of film so that the final leading can be properly applied when the project has cured.

When using bevels on your project, make sure to leave the surface area of the glass where the bevel sits free of film or dust. Apply the adhesive to the back of each bevel

and place in the desired locations. Let your project dry for 12 hours, or use a hair dryer to speed the process.

Then simply attach leading to the front panel, using the back panel leading as your guide.

Jendal recommends trying these techniques first on a piece of scrap glass or non-glass surface to familiarize yourself with the products.

"You don't have to be an artist," she says. "All you have to do is have a steady hand. That's what it boils down to, since you're just cutting film and tracing around a pattern with adhesive-backed lead. (The process) is kind of like coloring in a coloring book."

For more information on creating your own decorative glass, visit rockler.com or call toll-free at 800-279-4441.

Courtesy of ARA Content

PLEASE RECYCLE.

He's gone with the wind

BY MARY DANIELS
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — James Eaton, 63, creates unique painted aluminum weather vanes and whirligigs that must delight the winds that play with them. His wind creatures, which often include female figures with flying hair, mermaids with dolphin tails, riding elaborate arrows with curlicues and sun faces, also are great fun to look at.

Eaton's workshop, Eaton Studios Inc. in Gilbert, Ill., is "an incredibly uninteresting space, one of those multi-use tin building/quasi-warehouse/small business places, just perfect for what I do."

Yet out of it flies these fanciful wind creatures reminiscent of early American folk art but still contemporary, elegant and refined. Made out of aluminum, they are suitable for outdoor or indoor use.

An artist/designer for more than 30 years, Eaton says his objective is to create unique objects people

can enjoy over a long period of time. The door to outside started out in the early 1970s, when Eaton, making weather pieces, then made the more elaborate wind machines in 1991. "For a variety of reasons, I got intrigued with working with aluminum. That opened the door to going outside. Aluminum is lightweight, very weather-resistant, like that," he says.

A single flavor: When Eaton switched from wood to metal, flavor wasn't too different. "I think everything I've done that kind of edge to it has become too funny, but it's a very good word for it."

Sitting pretty: "We have all sorts of applications, ranging from patios to decks, side of the house, top of the house, etc."

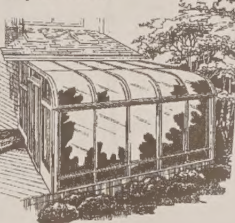
Flying high: Eaton says bachelor's degree in industrial design from the College of

See WIND, Page 7

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If you are like most people, you probably have closets, or have a room in your house. The closets and drawers are full, the shelves are jam-packed, and you are touching the ceiling.

Good thing the latest trend in home decorating is to become more creative with how you use space — and your home has more than you may think. Today's closets aren't any bigger, but thanks to closet organizers, you can store stuff more efficiently. Built-in shelves and soap dishes are making storage in the bathroom easier; while built-in appliances, garages and storage spaces are doing wonders for the kitchen.

Now you can get a complimentary "customized" look in other rooms in your house without knocking down walls. Just install a recessed cabinet.

The great thing about a cabinet that recesses into the wall is that it can give you a built-in cupboard without the custom price, and it opens up space you never thought you had," says Kevin Shahe, president of Racor, Incorporated, a Sandpoint, Idaho company that specializes in storage solutions.

Racor just introduced an entire line of recessed cabinets after analyzing research that showed do-it-yourselfers want them. There are five different cabinet styles available in the "Nooks Space Creators" line: a four-shelf cabinet that comes with or without a door; a tall cabinet that also has four shelves and a tilt-out drawer; a mail and key cabinet; and a CD cabinet. While they vary in height and style, they are all 19.5 inches wide and 5.75 inches deep — with the recessed portion of the cabinet measuring slightly less than 14.5 inches wide for an exact fit between the studs used in standard home construction.

"These cabinets can either be recessed into the wall to give the room they're in a complete custom look, or surface mounted on the wall like a picture frame. It all depends on what the home owner is most comfortable doing," says Shahe.

"We include a template that makes cutting a hole in the wall easy and accurate, instructions on how to determine what might be behind in your walls prior to cutting and all the hardware necessary to surface mount the cabinet if desired."

The cabinets are available in a white finish that can either be left alone, or painted to stand out as a true decorative piece. Shahe says

the tall and four-shelf cabinets tend to end up in bedrooms, family rooms and living rooms; places people want to display collections like golf balls, glasses, action figures or stuffed animals.

The most popular places for the mail and key cabinets to go up are in kitchens, dens, or right by the door leading out to the garage. The CD cabinets typically go up in family rooms, bedrooms and dens.

"Recessed cabinets are perfect for any place in the house where you need additional storage space. We've even seen people install them in kids' bedrooms, low to the ground, to serve as bookshelves," says Shahe.

Some other popular storage trends in kids' rooms these days, using decorative benches that double as storage boxes; using plastic bins that easily slide into a free-standing storage unit; and giving the child his or her own hamper to store dirty clothes in.

For more information about the "Nooks Space Creator" cabinets, log on to www.racorinc.com or call 800-783-7725 to order direct from Racor or find a retailer near you. The cabinets are also available for purchase via mail order through the Improvements Catalog at www.improvementscatalog.com.

Courtesy of ARA Content

Wind

FROM PAGE 6

Applied Arts at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. "If people really push me, I consider myself a designer/craftsman, rather than an artist," he says. "I fly under many flags."

Work ethic: Asked if he had ever held "a real job," Eaton answers, "Yeah, I had one of those. When I got out of school, I spent 18 years as a corporate designer developing building products, wall paneling, ceiling tiles, roofing products."

The road less traveled: But even when he worked at a real job, he says, "the artistic side was always there. My dad carved puppets so I was basically surrounded forever by this stuff." He was "advised somewhat strongly by my father who was an engineer, not to be an artist," he says. So he started out studying architecture, then discovered the industrial design curriculum and transferred to that, "because it is a marriage of design and engineering."

Creative stimulants: "Almost anything," he says, gives him inspiration for his work. "These things I'm doing are almost classical. It's just taken off in a weird direction. It's probably what an industrial de-

signer would come up with."

Made to last: "There's actually a fair amount of engineering in these things, in the selection of colors, materials and finishes. I'm using finishes I understand were developed for the aircraft industry and are high-performance and weatherable finishes."

A clean sweep: As for Eaton's bright palette, he says, "I would call them very clean colors. They're not primaries but they are very clean. I rarely use any black or white in the pigments, consequently clean is the best word for it."

Spaced out: "I have essentially a full machine shop," says Eaton. "The finishing and painting is somewhat elaborate so I have a spray booth. It is not a mega-operation, but it does take up a lot of space."

True to himself: "I do limited custom work," he says. "Most of the pieces I make are unique in that the colors and components vary. But it is pretty unusual for me to do custom work. If someone comes to me and says 'I am really in love with camels, would you do me a camel?' I have to politely decline on those. Things have to have a little bit of an edge to them."

Installations: Eaton does a large number of public installations.

Riverview reverie: Eaton just completed a commission, "Atrium Aviation Company," which took a

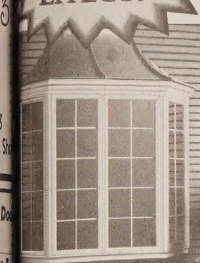
year to build and was inspired by his childhood memories of the now-defunct Riverview Park on Chicago's Northwest Side. This fanciful winged creature consists of two passengers and a parachute, is installed in the 70-foot-high atrium of the Bowery Professional Building of the Akron Children's Hospital in Akron. The creature is 13 feet high and 13 feet long and rests on a landing pad 18 feet high. Children activate the mechanism by placing a token in a box and pushing a start button. Lights flash and two mechanical men crank, lifting the creature slowly to the ceiling, with wings flapping. "The tail wags too," Eaton says.

"After a pause, the creature comes back down, lights flashing again. It's got a couple of fake kids as passengers. The whole thing takes about three minutes to complete."

Interactive delight: Judae Wick-ersham, art consultant for the hospital, says the hospital owns five of Eaton's pieces. The major one is a giant motorized piece, which she calls, "sophisticated folk imagery." Kids, parents, everybody enjoys it. It's got everything — electronics, computers, gears. It's an amazing engineering feat," she says.

Contact him: Call: 847-426-3608 or visit www.eatonart.com. Prices for pieces with titles like "Long-legged Winged Whirly Thing" start at \$2,600 and go up to \$3,000.

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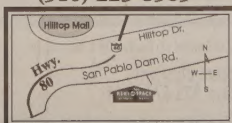
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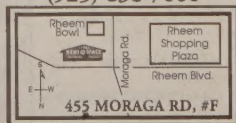


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